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German kidnap drama continues

HEISTERBERG (AP) — A former East German com-mando dubbed "the machete murderer" eluded police who caught his accomplice on Tuesday after the escaped convicts led law officers on a crazed 30-hour chase. Repeatedly switching getaway cars and hostages, the two men seized headlines and broadcast time after kidnapping police officers, robbing a bank and racing through six states pursued by police sedans, vans and helicopters. In all, the two had seized eight people and used five cars, including one commandeered by waving a pistol at a television camerman. His mobile phone gave the fugitives a chance to give live television interviews as they fled along the autobahn. Still at large was Raymond Albert, a 32-year-old furmer member of an elite unit of the East German army who had been sentenced to life imprisonment for strangling a tavern owner and cutting off the man's head. "We assume he is armed and highly dangerous," said local police spokesman Kurt Maier.



An independent Arab political daily published by the dordan Press Foundation جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية المُصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والراي،

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1994, JUMADA ALAWAL 26, 1415

Majlis frees soldiers to shoot

NICOSIA (AP) — Underscoring the Iranian government's unease with worsening economic conditions, parliament Tuesday approved a bill allowing law enforcement officers to fire on demonstrators and gave them immunity if they killed anyone. The move follows a string of riots in nearly every major Iranian city over the past two years and a series of bombings and attempted bombings of Shiite Muslim shrines in which at least 26 people were killed. The bill approved by the 270-seat Majlis, or parliament, caps a government effort to give unprecedented powers to recently unified internal security forces and the "Basij." This is an armed paramilitary volunteer force of some 500,000 men recruited largely from among Iran's poor, who have been fiercely loyal to the ruling clerics. The state-run Tehran Radio said the new bill allows the use of firearms to "restore law and order during illegal armed rallies. at times of unrest and during illegal armed disorders and revolts."

The radio did not mention whether there were any stipulations that law enforcement personnel could only open fire if they were shot at first. But the radio said that officers would be allowed to open fire on vehicles they suspected of carrying "stolen goods. narcotics, contraband or fugitives."

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Jordan will hand over Jerusalem Casablanca economic summit shrines to Palestinians when they concludes with trade pledge reach final accord-Crown Prince Jordan, Israel and Egypt set up joint bank; panel

Regional development should be clearly oriented and implemented, Prince Hassan says

CASABLANCA (Agencies) - His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Tuesday Jordan would hand

over Muslim holy sites in

Jerusalem to the Palestinians

when an agreement on the

Volume 18 Number 5757

city's final status is reached. "In the final status, when responsibility is transferred in full to the Palestinians, this responsibility (for the sites) will be transferred in full to those concerned," Crown Prince Hassan told a news conference at the Casablanca

economic conference. "We cannot accept that we would one day have to relinouish the Arab and Muslim identity except to an Arab Palestinian identity and ... not to the Israeli occupier," Prince Hassan said.

Under the declaration of principles signed in last year, the talks on Jerusalem are to start in May 1996, two years after the launch of Palestipian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

When the negotiations on Jerusalem have ended, "we promise to hand over trusteeship of the holy sites to the Palestinian Authority," Crown Prince Hassan said.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation criticised last week's Jordan-Israel peace treaty for recognising Jordan's special role in the holy sites in East Jerusalem, which Palestinians want as the capital of a future state.

"The hardening of Palestinian positions on this question must stop because the Palestinians signed the accord which call for negotiations on the status of Jerusalem to begin in 1996," the Crown Prince said.

He said Jordan was determined "to end this debate" which should not have started.

"The holy sites in Jerusalem are neglected and Israel refuses to recognise Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem, while allowing Jordanian trusteeship over them," he added.

"It was therefore our duty to continue to manage these sites," he said."

(Continued on page 3)

'Sustainable peace needs to address people's needs'

HIS ROYAL Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Tuesday that peace in the region would never be corroborated unless it is benefitting all its peoples.

Addressing the closing session of the Middle East and North Africa Economic Summit, the Crown Prince said the success of the Casablanca meeting in setting the general framework of economic development in the region emphasises the importance of continued and sustained regional economic

"I hope that we will be active partners in setting the stage for regional cooperation in trade and investments and helping to link this region's economy with that of the world," Prince Hassan

interaction.

"I seize this opportunity

economic summit ended here Tuesday with a pledge to seek ways of overcoming trade barriers after groundbreaking contacts between to call for the Amman Israeli and Arab businessmen economic summit next and leaders. year which was referred to The three-day conference, which was formally closed by in the Casablanca Declaration, and I hope that it King Hassan II, grouped would be held in the first more than 2,500 businessmen

die East peace would have Asia and the United States. become comprehensive The final declaration on all fronts," he said. announced participants "I hope to see interacwould explore ways to "overtion between the Amman come, as soon as possible, and the Casablanca meetobstacles" to trade and investment "including ings and between them and the international boycotts."

> Israeli officials said earlier the summit marked the "unofficial end" to the Arab boycott imposed in 1951. The declaration also

"noted favourably" the decision by the Gulf Cooperation Council to ease the economic boycott on Israel. The conference, which is to

become an annual event, aimed to "build the foundations for a Middle East and



to study formation of regional development fund

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan addresses a press conference in Casablanca on

North Africa Economic Community which involves.... the free flow of goods, capital and labour throughout the

Tuesday (Petra photo)

A committee of experts would examine the creation of a Middle East development bank, while a regional tourist board and chamber of commerce would also be cre-

The closing ceremony and King Hassan's speech were

held up for an hour and a half after a last-minute row between the United States and Europe on who would head the proposed development

It was decided finally that the dispute would go to the experts' committee which would report back in six

The joint Casabianca Declaration added it was important that the borders of the

Palestinian territories should be kept open to allow "the opportunity to build a viable economy in peace."

the "urgent need for economic development of the West Bank and Gaza Strip requires special attention from the international community."

The declaration noted that

King Hassan called for & greater "efforts to reach eco->r

(Continued on page 3)

German leader congratulates

AMMAN (Petra) — German President Roman Herzog on Tuesday sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein congranulating him on the conclusion of a peace treaty with Israel. The German president said that the treaty "is of a bistoric importance" which came into being as a result of King Hussein's relentless efforts. The president expressed hope that the treaty would fulfill the aspirations of the Israeli and Jordanian

UAE quits AOI

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Tuesday officially quit a major military venture with two other Gulf Arab states and Egypt, President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan issued a decree on "ending the relationship with the Arab Organisation for Industrialisation (AOI)," the official UAE news agency WAM reported. The AOI was established in Cairo by Egypt, the UAE, Saudi Araha and Oatas in 1975 with a capital of around \$1 billion to produce military hardware.

Yeitsin sacks controversial general

MOSCOW (AP) - President Bons Yeltsin on Tuesday dismissed a controversial general as first deputy deleace minister. Colonel General Marvei Burlakov, the former chief of the Russian armed forces in Germany, has been accused of corruption by Russian newspapers. Most recently, media reports linked his name to the bomb killing of a Moscow investigative reporter.

israeli reserves near \$7 billion

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's foreign currency reserves have reached \$6.998 billion, a one-month 23 per cent rise. in grants and loans annually from the United States.

Israel takes first steps to lift siege on Palestinians

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel said it hoped to ease tensions with Palestinians on Tuesday when it took a first step towards lifting the closure ciamped on them over the Tel Aviv suicide bus bomb-

An Israeli spokeswoman said new entry permits would be issued to 8,000 Palestinians — 4,000 from the autonomous Gaza Strip and 4,000 from the Israelioccupied West Bank - so they could work in the building industry.

But Captain Hannie Jeshurun, spokeswoman for the Israeli coordinator in the territories, said it would take a day before any would go to jobs in Israel.

Palestinian officials have said the 13-day-old closure. preventing about 70.000 Palestinians from going to jobs in Israel, throttled their economy, fuelling opposition to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace deal with Israel.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin said the closure had been needed to restore calm after the Oct. 19 bus attack by a Hamas bomber in which 23 people were killed. But he said sealing off Gaza and the West Bank was no political solution.

"We know that by doing that, the situation there doesn't become easier, the situation of the leadership doesn't become easier. As a result of it, we decided to put an end to it," he told repor-

"And from today on, gradually it will not exist any

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, meeting PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat at a Middle East economic conference in Morocco on Sunday. had said Israel would gradually lift the closure starting from Tuesday.

Mr. Arafat had pressed to ease the closure which had threatened to overshadow efforts by Israel and the PLO to revitalise the self-rule deal for Gaza and Jericho launched in May.

In Casabianca on Sunday, Mr. Rabin vowed to maintain a hard line against militants, telling reporters: "We will feel free to do whatever is needed to protect the lives of the Israelis."

Ms. Jeshurun said: "Starting today new work permits will be distributed for work in Israel to 8,000 construction

workers." "We are speaking of married men from 30 on up who worked before the imposition of the closure in Israel. The new permits cancel all previous permits that were distributed until the imposition of the closure."

She said it would take at least a day to distribute per-

The passages are given only to men over 30 who are married and have previously held a job in Israel.

Reporters at the Erez crossing to Gaza and the Al Ram entrance to the West Bank said no workers were being allowed in yet, aithough truck loads of farm produce from the West Bank entered

In a related development, Israeli newspapers reported that the Ibrahimi Mosque in the West Bank city of Hebron would be reopened Nov. 7. It has been closed since Feb. 25 when a Jewish settler massacred more than 30

Palestinians. The shrine was supposed to be open by Oct. 31, after new security arrangements were in place, but the date was postponed following unrest in the city.

The army had announced that the tomb complex, which is sacred to Jews, Muslims and Christians alike, would reopen at the end of October following alterations to keep believers of the two faiths

But on Tuesday, the army refused to comment on the report saying only that the reopening would be announced the day before. New security measures at the site include a special 200man border guard unit, closed circuit television

bringing in their guns. Police spokesman Eric Bar Chen told AFP the guards had been training in the complex in recent days.

cameras and a ban on settlers

Israel's official inquiry into the massacre criticised lax security procedures which allowed Baruch Goldstein to enter a mosque inside the complex and open fire on Muslims kneeling to pray.

Joint patrol stoned

half of the coming year

when we expect that Mid-

financial and economic

"We are ready more

than ever before to create

an identity without any

conditions and restric-

tions, an identity that

would effectively contri-

bute to the construction of

a regional entity working

for progress and prosper-

ity," the Prince said.

organisations," he said.

Palestinian vouths hurled stones at a joint Israeli-Palestinian patrol between the Bureij and Nusseirat refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, Palestinian sources

Nobody was hurt in the clash on the Gaza-Rafah

Witnesses said about 100 youths attacked two jeeps one Israeli and one Palesti-

The Palestinian police fired shots in the air and arrested one boy who was throwing

Palestinian sources said the stone-throwers belonged to a new group called "The youth of the Intifada," which urged people in Bureij to throw stones at joint patrols...

in Casablanca on Monday Israel clashed with the PLO over Jerusalem, and the Clinton administration kept its distance from the recurring dispute.

Israel's assignment of a special role to Jordan over Muslim holy sites will have no impact on the final status of the city, Secretary of State Warren Christopher said.

But Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, irked by apother Palestinian assertion of a claim to Jerusalem, said he found it "a bit strange" that the PLO should raise the issue at "this time of the

The latest round was touched off by PLO spokesman Marwan Kanfani's assertion that Mr. Arafat believes completely in the "commitment" of the Palestinians to Jerusalem,

"Anything that would affect the status of Jerusalem would cause a lot of problems now," he said at a press conference.

The issue was raised at a Sunday meeting between Mr. Arafat and Mr. Rabin and also in speeches at the Mideast-North African Sum-

Mr. Rabin, furious, insisted Jerusalem would remain Israel's undivided capit-

But Nabil Shaath, Palestimian minister of economic planning and cooperation, said the city should be "the capital of all capitals."

Majali explains Jordan's stand on Jerusalem, rejects criticism of treaty

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Tuesday said Jordan would that in 1988, when Jordan seriously consider transferring the religious custody over the Islamic holy places in Jerusalem to the Palestinians once the final political situation of the Holy City is resolved.

Jordan's religious custody over the holy places in Jerusalem is designed to safeguard the Arab indentity of this city in the absence of an Arab authority which can look after these holy places. in view of the Israeli occupation of the Holy City, he said. In an interview with the Middle East Broadcasting Corporation, Dr. Majali said Jordan has retained custodianship over the holy places

In 1967, when Israel occupied Jerusalem. Jordan continued to upkeep the holy places in the Arab city, he

The prime minister added severed its-legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, it continued to shoulder its religious responsibility towards the holy places there in accordance with a request by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

In the Washington Declaration with Israel, it was necessary for Jordan to include a provision about religious custody over Jerusalem, because "if we have not done so, then we would have dropped that custody and left it for the Israelis. Dr. Majali said. The Jordanian-Israeli

peace treaty signed on Oct. Jordanian negotiators.

the treaty following its approval by Parliament in accordance with the Consti-

26, Dr. Majali said, was the culmination of three years of serious and hard work by Dr. Majali said Jordan had been able to restore its full

water and territorial rights under the treaty. Asked why he himself. rather than the King, signed the treaty, the prime minister said King Hussein endorses

tutional procedures. The King's signature follows and does not precede its endorsement by Parliament. Referring to claims that Jordan leased part of its territory. Dr. Majali said Jordan had not leased and will not

is not a shameful act. "You can lease even in your capital, you can lease to states or to groups," Dr. Majali said. However, he added. Jordan has not leased any land neither to Israel, nor to any other state or party.

The plot of land in the

north is an Israeli property, it.

there could be Jordanian land within Syrian territory, or Syrian land within the Jordanian territory, he said. On the Wadi Araba land, Dr. Majali said part of it was purchased and it was like a thorn within the Jordanian territory. However, following the delineation of borders. this land has been restored to Jordanian sovereignty, but the Israelis are cultivating the

is owned by Israel; similarly

Asked whether Jordan's acceptance to let Israel use this land and cultivate it set a lease any plot of land, "although talks about leasing precedent in the Arab region, Dr. Majali said: "It is not a matter of precedent or otherwise. The matter is simply that a piece of land was used

> sovereignty. Dr. Majali said Jordan had

> by the Israelis, and it is now

under total Jordanian

(Continued on page 3)

Assad, Clinton have 'identical views'

BEIRUT (Agencies) — President Bill Clinton and Hafez Al Assad agreed last week that a Syrian-Israeli settlement would lead to a global Middle East peace, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa said here Tuesday.

"There was an agreement and identical views ... that peace with Syria would open the way for peace with Lebanon and for a comprehensive and real peace in the region," Mr. Sharaa told reporters.

Mr. Sharaa came to Beirut to inform President Elias Hrawi of the Syrian-U.S. summit held on Oct. 27 in Damascus, during Mr. Clinton's six-country Middle East tour that excluded Lebanon.

"There was a convergence of ideas ... that the implementation of the U.N. Security Council resolutions should lead to a full (Israeli) withdrawal from the Golan and from South Lebanon," the Syrian official said.

"A comprehensive solution is as much an important objective for the American administration as for Syria and Lebanon," he added. "It depends very much on the good intentions of the Israeli government in re-

sponding to the peace re-

quirements announced by (Assad) when he spoke about Syria's readiness to meet the objective requirements of peace, including the full withdrawal and peaceful normal relations with Israel," he

Syria's and Lebanon's negotiations with Israel have achieved no tangible results. Syria's talks with Israel are stalled over the scope and timing of an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights occupied in 1967. Lebanon wants Israel to pull out from a southern border strip captured in 1978.

President Hrawi on Sunday renewed his proposal for a joint Lebanon-Israeli political and military commission to supervise an Israeli withdrawal over a pull-out (see pages 2 and 12).

Mr. Sharaa praised the Lebanese government for its "deep and continuous coordination with Syria." Some 35,000 Syrian troops are deployed in Lebanon.

"Our confidence in the Lebanese government is never subject to any doubt. Our coordination is very deep and very strong," he said.

(Continued on page 3)

U.S. flexes muscles at Iraq in Kuwait show

U.S. B-52 bombers led an armada of more than 100 allied warplanes in exercises over Kuwait and southern Iraq Tuesday that were designed to drive home to Iraq the U.S.-led coalition's resolve to protect the emirate. Two B-52s and a pair of B-1 bombers flew from their

KUWAIT (Agencies)

U.S. bases for the manoeuvres and U.S. A-10 Thunderbolt tank-killing groundattack jets also took part in the manoeuvres, the biggest allied air force exercise in the last couple of years. Kuwait's defence minister

Sheikh Ahmad Al Humoud Al Sabah, applanded as B52s dropped 225-kilogramme bombs on simulated targets, including burned-out Iraqi tanks left from the 1991 Guif war, in the emirates' northem desert.

Allied warplanes were also in the skies in the "no-fly zone" over southern Iraq below the 32nd Parallel.

Details of that part of the exercise were not provided. But no incidents were reported despite Iraqi protests about what Baghdad termed a provocative and illegal allied operation.

Coalition aircraft have

been operating from bases in Saudi Arabia and Turkey since the war to monitor the "no-fly" zone and a similar exclusion zone in northern

Two B-1s and two-52s flew 13 hours after takeoff from bases at Elseworth, South Dakota and Minot, North Dakota, before staging the bombing.

"Aggression will not be an acceptable way of doing business over here," said Lieutenant General Richard Neal. deputy commander in chief and chief of staff of U.S. Central Command, the unit of the U.S. military responsible for the Middle East.

"If our neighbour to the north (Iraq) wants to try to think about committing an aggression against Kuwait, then this is a message directed to him," Defence Minister Sheikh Ahmad told reporters.

"We and the world will not allow him to commit an aggression against Kuwait." The B-1 lancers said B-52 stratofortresses are former cold war era nuclear bombers modified to carry convention-

the central bank said Tuesday. The Bank of Israel attributed most of the rise to the arrival of \$1.2 billion in United States economic aid. Israel, with an economy Pproaching \$70 billion a year, receives some \$3 billion

Resistance will continue — Bouez

NICOSIA (AP) - Lebanon's foreign minister on Monday warned Israel that armed resistance to its occupation of a border strip in South Lebanon will go on until the Jewish state agrees to a withdrawal.

Faris Bouez supported Lebanese President Elias Hrawi's Saturday announcement that his government was ready to establish a joint committee with Israel to draw up a timetable for a withdrawal and was prepared to guarantee an end to guerrilla raids if Israel agreed.

Mr. Bouez was speaking on Radio Monte Carlo, a French-based Arabic-language station monitored in Cyprus.

Reiterating the Syrianbacked Beirut government's commitment to maintain security in the south once Israel withdraws from the border zone it has occupied since 1982, Mr. Bouez stressed that "it is not possible to put an end to resistance in South Lebanon unless Israel withdraws."

He added that "both processes must be... simultaneous.

In Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said earlier Monday that Israel will not promise to withdraw from its self-designated "security zone" just to hold peace

But he did not dismiss Mr. Hrawi's proposal outright. saying he had asked U.S. mediators for clarification.

Israel's negotiations with Syria and Lebanon, which is under Syrian control, have been stalled since February despite U.S. efforts to get them going again.

It was not clear whether the Lebanese proposal had Syrian backing, but it is unlikely that Mr. Hrawi would have made such a move without Syrian approval.

Mr. Hrawi made the offer amid renewed fighting in South Lebanon, but it also followed an Oct. 27 summit in Damascus between President Bill Clinton and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

Mr. Rabin was sceptical that Mr. Hrawi's government, with an army still being restructured following the 1975-90 civil war, was capable of curbing the Iranianbacked Shiite Muslim fighters who spearhead the guerrilla campaign in South Lebanon.

Mr. Hrawi's government would prefer the guerrillas to stop their operations, but cannot publicly move to disarm them since they are fighting to liberate Lebanese territory from Israeli occupation. Mr. Bouez stressed: "If

there is a clear intention to advance in these negotiations, then Israel must promise and commit itself to a complete withdrawai before a joint Israeli-Lebanese committee is to be established. "If the committee is to be

established for the sake of implementation, then we agree." he noted.

Israel has repeatedly said it will not withdraw from South Lebanon until Syria pulls out the 40,000 troops it has deployed in Lebanon since 1976, ostensibly as a

peacekeeping force. But Syria has security and friendship agreements with Lebanon and maintains its forces are in that country at the invitation of the Beirut government.

Israel maintains a garrison of around 1.200 soldiers in the "security zone," backed by 2.500 Lebanese militia fighters of the South Lebanaon Army, which it arms, trains and funds.

It established the zone in 1985, after it withdrew the bulk of its army from Lebanon three years after invading its northern neighbour.

Israeli deputies visit Jerusalem holy sites

JERUSALEM (AP) — Protected by dozens of armed police in bulletproof vests, Israeli right-wings legislators toured Muslim holy sites in East Jerusalem on Tuesday in a demonstration of Israeli

"sovereignty" over the city. The visit ended with a shouting match between four opposition lawmakers and an Israeli Arab legislator who insisted East Jerusalem would one day be the capital of a Palestinian state.

"Shame and disgrace," Naomi Blumenthal of the right-wing Likud Party yelled at legislator Salah Salim, Yigal Bibi from the National Religious Party called Mr.

Salim a "hater of Israel." During the half-hour tour, police showed the lawmakers around the treeshaded Haram Al Sharif, a 36-acre raised platform that houses both the Dome of the Rock Mosque and Al Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third holiest

Muslim religious officials, who run the haram denounced the legislators' tour as provocative.

Ikrema Sabri warned that there would never be peace unless the Palestinians won their rightful share of the

"The Israelis deceive themselves if they insist in keeping Jerusalem and the holy shrines under their sovereignity. It means the collapse of the peace process," Mr. Sabri said.

Palestinians were also angered that the Jordan-Israel peace treaty reconfirmed Jordan's control over

the Holy Sites. Mr. Sabri and other Muslim officials stayed away dur-

ing the legislators' yisit. Opposition members of parliament's interior committee had organised the tour as a protest after Palestinian officials last week said they would lock the gates to the complex if mayor Ehud Olmert accompanied visiting President Clinton to the Muslim sites. Mr. Clinton then bowed out of his Old City walking tour, not wishing to hurt political sensitivities of either side.

Police Chief Superintendent Roland Dayan assured the visiting legislators Tuesday that Muslim officials "don't open any gate without our knowledge and permis-

Mr. Dayan said 50 policemen were regularly deployed on the complex, with reinforcements brought in on Fridays when some 40,000 Muslims pray in the walled-in

At the end of the tour. committee Chairman Yehoshua Matza did not find any of the alleged illegal Muslim construction he had set out to spot, but said the visit served its purpose.

compound.

"This tour was conducted to confront those who last week challenged us, and said they would not open the gates to Israelis. We came to demonstrate that the gates are in our hands and can be opened whenever we wish."



SARID IN TUNISIA: A young Tunisian girl in traditional Tunisia will take joint steps to protect the environment, starting with a meeting of experts to discuss issues such as dress says "Welcome to Tunisia Mr. Minister" to Israeli Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, at the Mediterranean desertification and conservation, Mr. Sarid said (AFP environmental conference in Tunis on Tuesday. Israel and

Thai dreams of 'city of Bible' near Petra

CASABLANCA (AFP) — A of Petra, as a symbol of new Thai businessman came to the Casabianca economic summit with a proposal to build a Disneyland-style "City of the Bible" along the Israel-Jordan border.

Watana Keovimo wants to build a 1,000-acre reconstruction of Biblical scenes complete with five-star hotels in the hope of attracting Christian. Jewish and Muslim tour-

Mr. Watana himself is a Bhuddist. "I came to this project as a neutral," he said. He wants to build his \$1 billion Bible City between the Red Sea and the Dead Sea, near the Jordanian town

peace between Israel and

He has been lobbying Israeli and Jordanian government officials here during the three-day summit and says they are "very excited" about

"It will be a Disneyland of Bible history. Most of the world knows the Bible but people these days want their history with convenience," said Mr. Watana, president Bangkok-based Global Capital Group.

"They can go to Petra for pure history, but our city will be modernised with facilities. "We will rebuild parts of Jerusalem so they can see with their own eyes what they read in the Bible before they

actually go to the real place. City of the Bible will take 10 years to build, will have 10-20 hotels with at least 1,000 beds and should attract two million tourists over the

next few years, he said. A lake in front of the hotel area, planned to help the region's chronic water shortages, may be modelled on the Biblical Red Sea which parted for Moses.

Mr. Watana said he was not sure yet which other religious scenes would be reconstructed, apart from the main events in the life of Jesus and the prophet Mohammad. "I will have to consult with historical experts," he said. He hopes to launch the

project with \$100 to \$150 million provided by Israel, Jordan and private investors. and encourage the public to buy shares. "If people have a share in

peace and cooperation, then they will want to protect it and let it grow."

The assistant secretarygeneral of the Jordanian Tourism Ministry, said he was interested in the project.

"The Thai people have good experience in developing tourism and are very successful at it," he said.

U.S. State Department blasts Iran Mujahedeen

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rejecting lobbying that has gained Iran's leading resistance group congressional support, a State Department report declares the group 'fundamentally undemocratic" and no alternative to Iran's theocratic regime.

In a sweeping rejection of the Iraq-based Mujahedeene-Khalq, the report released Monday by the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee says the group has a 29-year record of undemocratic behaviour, including assassinations, kidnappings, terrorism, armed revolution and suppression of

A few days before the report was sent to Congress, the group accused Iran of working to get the U.S. government to issue a biased assessment of the organisa-

The report, however, represents no U.S. policy change towards the group, which joined the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in overthrowing the Shah of Iran in 1979, but then lost power to the Islamic ciergy.

State Wendy R. Sherman, in

Assistant Secretary of

a cover letter, said the report does not "in any way imply support for the behaviour of the current regime in Iran." She said the United States still objects to Iran's efforts

to block peace in the Middle East, attempts to acquire weapons of mass destruction and its "dismal human rights record." The 41-page report includes 13 pages of footnotes and names of experts on Iran.

The introduction says the document is based on information from government intelligence agencies, consultation with experts on Iran, Iranian opposition groups and Iranian expatriates, including some Mujahedeen sympathisers, and a review of Mujahedeen litera-

Much of the evidence against the group, however, dates to the 1980s and 1970s.

The report also lists the names of six Americans allegedly killed by the Mujahedeen in Iran during the

The Mujahedeen, the re-

port says, has gained sympathy by exploiting Western opposition to Iran, but has little support in Iran itself. Shahin Gobadi, a spokesman for the Mujahedeen's' Washington office, called the report "a rehash of the State Department's previous

allegations" that have been

rejected by members of Congress and the public. "The report is simply a compilation of boldface lies about the Mujahedeen and shows that the State Department has not even studied historical facts about this organisation," Mr. Gobadi

In September, 98 House members and 12 senators called for a fair and objective treatment of the Mujahedeen in the report and urged official contacts with the group.

"Despite (Mujahedeen) assertions that the group has abandoned its revolutionary ideology and now favours a liberal democracy, there is no written or public record of discussion or debate about the dramatic reversals in the (Mujahedeen's) stated posi-

tions," the report said. "Shunned by most Iranians and fundamentally undemocratic, the (Mujahedeen) are not a viable alternative to the current government of Iran," it said.

The report also focused on the group's ties to Iraqi President Saddam Mussein, who h said supports its bases in Iraq and provides him with political support in return. Iraq is the only government that recognises the Mujahedeen.

The report also cites a message of congratulations from Mujahedeen leader Masoud Rajavi to President Saddam in July, and a January meeting between the two as the most recent evidence of their close ties.

Somali leaders do not ask U.N. to stay

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Somali clan leaders. still battling for control of the country, are making no attempts to stop the withdrawal of 17,000 U.N. peacekeepers guarding relief operations, U.N. officials said Monday.

In the coming week, the Security Council is expected to discuss the "phased and orderly withdrawal" of the peacekeepers, according to David Hannay, the British ambassador, who holds the rotating council presidency for October. The withdrawal is expected to be completed by March 31.

Humanitarian aid is expected to continue as long as Somali leaders can provide enough security to protect the personnel distributing the food and relief supplies.

New Zealand Ambassador Colin Keating, just back from meetings with Somali leaders, briefed the Security Council Monday in preparation for winding up the mission dedicated to saving hundreds of thousands of Somalis from famine.

The Security Council sent Mr. Keating's delegation to Somalia last week after deciding to end the operation because of increasing lawlessness and continuing clan war-

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali recommended the withdrawal after battling clan leaders failed to form a government, as they had agreed to under the U.N.brokered agreements signed in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,

and Nairobi, Kenya. After receiving Mr. Keating's report, Mr. Hannay said no Somali factions apparently had challenged ending the mandate for the U.N. peacekeeping force at the end of March

However, Mr. Hannay said there was interest in continued U.N. efforts to provide humanitarian aid.

UNOSOM, the acronym for the United Nations Operation in Somalia, currently has a 17,300-member force, which protects food convoys but makes no attempt to halt clan fighting.

It took over from a U.S.led multinational force that entered Somalia in December 1992 to end starvation that threatened hundreds of thousands of people and caused more than two million of them to leave their drought-stricken farms amid the fighting.

As of the end of September, the United Nations said the following countries had police, troops or personnel involved in the peacekeeping force in Somalia: Australia, Bangladesh, Botswana. Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Italy, South Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Romania, Zambia and Zim-

babwe. "There has been on the part of no Somali party a contest with the view that the end of March should be the end of the UNOSOM mandate period," Mr. Hannay said after Monday's meeting. "It was fully understood, according to Keating, that

the period before then." Mr. Hannay told reporters. Secretary General Boutrous Ghali said recently that the operations to pull out the peacekeepers in Somalia should be spread out over two to four months according

there would be a phased

orderly withdrawal needed in

to security conditions. Mr. Hannay voiced the "willingness of the U.N. to continue to act as a facilitator in any peace process or reconciliation progress in Somalia, and the efforts that would be made in terms of humanitarian activities" as long as there was "the essential minimum of cooperation by Somalis themselves in en-

nitarian operations." The British diplomat said the council would make a decision before Friday on UNOSOM's future. Meanwhile, the council on Monday adopted a technical resolution to extend the U.N. mission's mandate through

suring security of such huma-

Conference opens

More than a thousand people gathered here Tuesday for a reconciliation conference among Somali clans organised by Gen. Aideed and boycotted by his main

During the opening ceremony, sporadic shooting was heard in several southern parts of the capital, where the Agbal sub-clan of Gen. Aideed's foe, Interim President Ali Mahdi Mohammad. have been fighting Murosade people.

The Murosade president of the United Somali Congress (USC). Mohammad Qanyare Afrah, was elected chairman of the conference taking place at the so-called *house of peace" in southern Moga-

Two vice-presidents were also chosen, while a "technical committee" was to be set up on Tuesday afternoon. The conference could last for more than a month, several participants told AFP.

About 270 of the people attending the conference are representatives of 12 factions aligned with Gen. Aideed.

li people, to bring peace to

Bakhtiar assassination trial puts Iran in dock in Paris court

PARIS (R) — The suspected assassins of former Iranian Prime Minister Shapour Bakhtiar go on trial in Paris on Wednesday, casting a harsh spotlight on a trail of death which the prosecution

says begins in Tehran. Three Iranians, including a relative of President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, will be in the dock, and six others will be tried in absentia. All have denied involve-

bound to focus on whether

The month-long case is their getaway.

Iran's Muslim fundamentalist rulers ordered the murder. Bakhtiar, the late Shah's last prime minister before the

1979 Islamic revolution, was knifed to death with his secretary, Sorouch Katibeh, at his heavily-guarded exile home in the leafy Paris suburb of Suresnes on Aug. 6,

house let in three Iranians, one of whom was a regular visitor and business associate, and only discovered the bodies, with their throats slit, 48 hours later, giving the killers plenty of time to make

French police guarding his

It was the most daring of dozens of killings of Iranian opponents over the last decade which Western security services blame on Tehran's

ruling mullahs. The Iranian government denied any involvement in Bakhtiar's death, but French Investigating Judge Jean-Louis Bruguiere, using a trail of clues carelessly scattered by the suspected assassins,

believes he has traced the thread back to Iran. The trial will open amid massive security at Paris' Palais de Justice in a special assize court consisting only of seven professional magistrates, to avoid danger to civilian jurors.

Bakhtiar's last visitors and suspected killers were Farydoun Boyerahmadi, a business associate believed to be

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

a long-dormant Iranian agent. Mohammad Azadi and Ali Vakili Rad, both of whom arrived on the same flight from Tehran a few days

earlier. Only Vakili Rad was captured, walking without identity papers on the banks of Lake Geneva, and later extradited from Switzerland. The other two suspected kil-

lers escaped to Iran. In September 1991, Paris police arrested 47-year-old Iranian businessman Massoud Hendi, a nephew of the late revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, and charged him with terrorist conspiracy and

being an accomplice to mur-

Mr. Hendi, a former Iranian television bureau chief in Paris, is accused of having provided logistical support and forged French visas for the killers.

But the third man in the dock is the focus of greatest tension between Tehran and Paris. Zeynal Sarhadi, a great-nephew of Mr. Rafsaniani extradited from Switzerland in 1992, is accused of being the key link-man between the Iranian intelligence services and the assassins.

Officially a lowly administrative secretary at the Iranian embassy in Bern, he is suspected of having organised the killers' escape. Judge Bruguiere traced telephone calls from the suspects, Mr. Bruguiere found that four Iranian ministries foreign affairs, interior, intelligence and telecom-

munications — were involved in organising the killing. Apart from the two other suspected killers, four other men will be tried in their absence: Hossein Sheikhattar, an adviser to the telecommunications minister, Mesut Edipsoy, an Iranian; born Turkish businessman and two Iranian traders, Hasser Ghasmi Nejad and Shoorideh Shirazi Nejad.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel. 773111-19

| PROGRAMI | |
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| | Les Tresors Du Monde |
| | News in French |
| | E=M6 |
| | Galactica |
| | News in Arabic |
| 21:10 | Cracking the Code |
| 22:00 | News in English |
| | Poldark |
| 23:10 | The Exile |
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| CHURCHES | | | | |
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| Se. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifieh. Tcl. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tcl. 632785. | | | | |
| St. Joseph Church Tcl. 624590. Church of the Annuaciation Tcl. 637440. | | | | |
| De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasancia Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Annunciation Tel. | | | | |
| 623541. Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. | | | | |

628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tcl. Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. Evengelical Lutheran Church Tel: German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel: 684195

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 654932

Church of Nazarene Tel.675691.

The Evangelical Local Church in

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Tel. 811295

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. Skies will be partly cloudy with a chance of thunder showers and winds southeasterly moderate to active. In Aqaba, winds will be

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Yesterday's high temperatures: Ammon 25 Agaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 40 per cent. Agaba 45 per cent.

NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Salah Al 'Usud 649028 Dr. Ismam Al Asmar 890504 Dr. Yousef Sammour 615848 Dr. Khaldoun Kloub 816715 Firas pharmacy 66[9]2 Ferdows pharmacy 778336 Al Asema pharmacy 637055 Nairoukh pharmacy 623672 Al Salam pharmacy 636730 Yacoub pharmacy 644945 Shmeisani pharmacy 637660 Nairoujh pharmacy 623672

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NUMBERS

Najib pharmacy 847632 Dr. Ali Al Omari 272032 Al Quds pharmacy (—) ZARQA: Dr. Yahya Al Tarifi 981520

EMERGENCIES

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

Food Control Centre 637111 Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341 Civil Defence Emergency 199 Rescue Police 192, 621 (11, 637777 Highway Police 843402 Traffic Police 896390 Public Security Department 630321 Complaints 897467

Hotel Complaints 605800 Price Complaints 661176 Water and Sewerage Amman Municipality Complaints 787111 Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121 Overseas Calls 010230 Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101 Jordan Television 773111 Radio Jordan 774111 Water Authority
Jordan Electricity Authority
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RJ Flight Information 08-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

AMMAN:

Khalidi Maternity, J., Amn Akilch Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 Malhas, J. Amman 636140 Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4 Shmeisani Hospital . 669131 University Hospital .. 845845 Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9 The Islamic. Abdali 666127/37 Al-Ahli. Abdali 664164/6 Italian, Al-Muhajreen ... 777101/3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/26 Army.§Marka 891611/15 Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50 Amal Hospital 674155 ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323

Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990990 Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Ibn Al Naices Hospital (02)247100 AOABA: Princess Haya Hospital(03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732

Zarqa National Hospital

AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5. where it should always be veri-

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DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) 05:30 Aqaba (RJ) 19:35 Berlin, London (RJ) 10:50 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)

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Cucumbers (small) 340 / 240 Eggplant 320/ 220 Garlic 1300/1000 Marrow (large) 180 / 100 Marrow (small) 340 / 240 Olive (green) 540/ 400 Onion (green) 481V 320 Onion (dry) 400 / 300 Orange 600/450 Pepper (sweet) 340 / 240 Potato 420/ 320 Spinach 280/ 200 Tomato 440/ 240 String beans 800/ 600 T

Czech Republic minis arrive for talks

Olympic Airways to re: Amman flights

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AMMAN (I.T.) — A Czech Republic delega- focus on increasing Jordan's exports to Japan tion led by the First Deputy Minister of and the United States. Foreign Affairs, Alexandr Vondra, today starts its official visit to Jordan, according to Agricultural engineers to meet an embassy statement. During his two-day in Beirut visit Mr. Vondra will meet with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss interna- AMMAN (Petra) - The Agricultural En-

Olympic Airways to resume Amman flights

AMMAN (Petra) -- The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Tuesday announced that the Greek national airline Olympic Airways will resume regular flights to Jordan as of this month, after a four-year break resulting from the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis. It said the first flight will arrive at the Queen Alia International Airport Today.

Seminar to discuss export promotion

AMMAN (Petra) - The Amman Chamber is designed to focus on the international of Industry Tuesday said it was planning a humanitarian law from the perspective of seminar to be held in conjunction with the Arab and Islamic culture and in line with 1949 Arab-Italian Chamber of Commerce to dis- Geneva conventions,

cuss means of encouraging Jordanian exports.

A chamber statement said that the discussions at the meeting to take place in January would

tional and regional issues, as well as bilateral gineers Association (AEA) Tuesday said that relations.

it will take part in a scientific conference in Beirut on Nov. 9. The conference is scheduled to discuss food security for the Arab World. Jordan will submit working papers to the three-day conference outlining efforts to increase food production.

ICRC to hold special exhibition

AMMAN — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is organising an exhibition on international humanitarian law using the medium of Arabic calligraphy. The exhibition will be held under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath from Nov. 16 to 22. Fahd Haddad, assistant ICRC head of the delegation here, said the exhibition, to be held at the Royal Cultural Centre,

Jordan will hand over holy shrines

(Continued from page 1)

"We will not leave to Israel the question of caring for or sovereignty over the holy sites but we will hand over this trust to a Palestinian Arab authority," the Crown Prince stressed.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's adviser on Jerusalem, Faisal Al Husseini, said he welcomed the Crown Prince's remarks.

"I salute Crown Prince Hassan for his clarification," Mr. Husseini told Reuters. But he said the clause on Jordan's supervisory role in Jerosalem should never have been in the treaty in the first

In reply to a question on the nature of the relationship between Jordan and the PLO-led Palestine National Authority (PNA), Prince Hassan said Jordan and the Palestinians had accomplished joint economic achievements but stressed that there can be no sound projects without sound planning. He also stressed the need for the Palestinians to create their national institutions to take care of joint schemes. Prince Hassan emphasised the importance of achieving Jordanian-Palestinian integration on an

equitable basis. Referring to economic development of the Middle East and North Africa, Prince Hassan voiced hope that a projected regional development bank or fund would serve as a regional institution and not follow the pattern of the already existing financial institutions including the World Bank.

"When we discuss economic reform in the Arah region we recall our dealing

with the World Bank, which is mainly based on the principle of the carrot and the

stick," added Prince Hassan. "While contemplating the creation of regional institutions, we ought to remember our experiences with such institutions as the International Monetary Fund and the OPEC investment fund," the Prince added.

Referring to a planned follow-up economic conference to be held in Amman next year, Prince Hassan said the conference's secretariat would focus attention on making the conference serve as a qualitative forum which would dedicate its deliberations to the basic issues related to trade and invest-

When Amman played host to an economic summit meeting in 1980 it was at the government and political level of the Arab World, "but we are now talking about a multinational summit that would tackle different specialisations and interests of concern both to private as well as public sectors," added Prince Hassan.

Asked to comment on reports that Saudi Arabia had expressed reservations about the establishment of the Middie East development fund. Prince Hassan said he was not aware of the contents of the Saudi statement. But, he added, such reservation could be for the sake of giving time for consideration.

"We share Saudi Arabia's views in this matter because the hank is not a target in itself and it would take experts sometime to work out details which could be presented to next year's Amman economic summit," Prince Hassan said.

Prince Hassan said that he reached agreement with the U.S. administrations and European and other international organisations on basic principles. These, he said, included agreement that the industrialised nations should play a central role in the projected Middle East fund or bank, helping the countries of the region to merge economically and that any merger of economies should

mainly be of benefit to the weaker nations. He said that a development bank would help achieve an economic balance in the re-

The Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty, he said, helped Jordan regain full rights in its lands and water resources.

But, he said, he was against the idea of equating what is termed as subjugation with the term of normalisation of relations.

"These two terms are not synonymous and indeed a meeting between Israeli and Jordanian business people have beloed to break the ice while another meeting between scientists was dedicated to topics related to industry and technology benefiting both sides," he said.

Prince Hassan voiced Jordan's commitment to supporting the Palestinian-Israeli declaration of principles, noting that the Palestinians and Jordanians had gone to the Madrid conference under one umbrella.

"We have reached economic agreements, and we are waiting for their official endorsement by the Palestinian side," said the Prince, who stressed the need for integrated economic schemes for the West Bank as well as for

Assad, Clinton Majali explains stand

(Continued from page 1)

not rushed the signing of the treaty with Israel but has delved into in-depth and detailed negotiations which led to Jordan's regaining of its full rights. He said that the acceleration of peace negotiations on the Jordanian track followed the acceleration of talks on the Palestinian-Israeli track, and noted that Jordan did not act unilaterally, nor did it hold

any secret deals with Israel. The prime minister noted that Jordan had always informed its Arab brethren on development on the Jordanian-Israeli peace track but has not received their

He noted that Jordan had, from the beginning of the poace process, requested that all Arabs have one track, but Our request was rejected at

Dr. Majali said Jordan cannot let its problems accumulate at a time when it is falling under the pressure of an economic war waged against it despite the fact that Jordan bosts the largest number of refugees in the world.

Asked whether the treaty had detached Jordan from its Arab family and turned it into a security belt on the castern flank of Israel, Dr. Majali said all the North African countries, excluding Libya, and all the Gulf countries have supported the

peace process. On Syria's opposition to the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty, Dr. Majali said "we have not heard about Syrian ". notition."

"However, President Hafez Al Assad was clear and did not object to the establithment of peace in the re-Bon. He believes in a com-

prehensive peace that ensures the Arab rights." Dr. Majali said.

He described Jordan's relations with Syria as good and brotherly, noting that differences of opinion on certain issues was normal.

Dr. Majali welcomed progress on the Syrian-Israeli track, saying that Jordan aspires to see such progress.

On the future of Jordanian-Palestinian relations, Dr. Majali said Jordan will not impose on the Palestinians any decision nor any agreement, and will leave it to the Palestinian people who will decide on it by their full and free volition once they obtain their right to selfdetermination.

Asked whether Jordan will fight terrorism in line with Parliament, Dr. Majali said Jordan had always been against terrorism. However, it differentiates between terrorism and resistance of occupation.

Dr. Majali said there is no such a Jordanian party in Jordan. He added that there are no bases for Hamas in Jordan at all.

Asked if Jordan fears a new wave of extremism, Dr. Majali said Jordan was ready for everything, and is fully equipped to cope with any such things.

"It is our right to live in peace in our land. It is also our right to resist any attempt to tamper with our security."

On the issue of Palestinian refugees, Dr. Majali said the Jordanian track was the only track which addressed this issue. The problem of the Palestinian refugees will be discussed in the final stage talks, he pointed out.

(Continued from page I)

Asked whether the talks dealt with Mr. Hrawi's offer. Mr. Sharaa said:

"Lebanon has for years been demanding the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 425 which stipulates an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon.

"It is natural then that if Israel is ready to withdraw that a joint committee is formed to discuss security arrangements to implement the full withdrawal."

Mr. Sharaa held two hours of talks on Tuesday with Lebanese President Hrawi at his hilitop palace in suburban Baabda east of Beirut.

Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri and Foreign Minister Faris Bouez also

attended the talks. Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin said negotistions will have to be accelerated if Israel and Syria are to make peace in the

coming months. "I hope that despite all the difficulties we'll make peace with Syria and with Lebanon not in a course of years but in a course of months," he told the Foreign Press Association.

"In order to have an agreement with the Syrians in the near future we have to speed up the pace. I cannot say that the continuation of such a pace will lead us to an agree-

ment very soon." Mr. Beilin described President Clinton's visit to Damascus last Thursday as "produc-

But he criticised President Assad saying: "His public diplomacy is far from answering the basic needs for some kind of confidence building measures."

Princess Basma meets women appointees to municipal committees; urges success

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Tuesday met the 29 women who were appointed last month as members of government committees that will run municipality affairs until the September 1995 municipal elections are held. Princess Basma expressed her appreciation of the government's decision in this regard, saying that this initiative aims at promoting the status of women and at stimulating their role in the Jordanian society. The Cabinet decision can

be considered one of the fruits of the National Strategy for Women which aims at helping women attain their aspirations, added the Princess.

She stressed the need for these women to succeed intheir mission, which, she said, is the first of its kind in the Kingdom. Princess Basma had re-

quested that the council of

ministers approve the appointment of women to the municipal committees. The Cabinet approved the appointments on Oct. 24. Princess Basma told the women that the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs will organise a training workshop for them

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Tuesday meets with the women appointed to serve on municipality committees until

next year's municipal elections. Minister of Municipal and

بيتر

the requirements of their tasks and ensure the success of their mission.

Speakers among the group of women expressed their happiness over their

appointment and thanked the Princess for her efforts in serving women's interests and the country as a whole.

Next year's municipal

Rural Affairs and the Environment Tawfiq Krishan also attended the meeting (Petra photo)

elections will be held in implementation of a new law endorsed by Parliament last July.

The Cabinet had decided to dissolve all serving municipal councils, including those run by governmentappointed committees; and set up 191 new committees to administer them until the elections.

Casablanca summit

(Continued from page 1)

in order to orient them on

nomic progress and prosperity in the region.' The king added: "The

summit has not resolved all political problems. "There is still Arab land occupied and it is indispensable that the state of Palestine becomes a concrete real-

ity so it can contribute to stability in the region." The final declaration set up a steering committee which will work with the organisers of the multilateral peace negotiations spawned by the 1991 Middle East peace conference to report within six months on the main Casab-

lanca propossis. It said the new partnership of business and government born in Casablanca between Arabs and Israelis would be an ongoing process and pledged to meet again in Amman, in the first half of 1995 to ensure that progress is

"The Casablanca summit calls for a group of experts to examine the different options for funding mechanisms including the creation of a Middie East and North Africa development bank," the declaration said.

The declaration also urged establishment of a privatesector regional chamber of commerce and business council to facilitate trade relations. An executive secretariat to be based in Morocco will 'work for the enhancement of the new economic development pattern," the statement said.

Israel, Jordan and Egypt agreed to set up a joint private investment bank for the Middle East during the conference. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said. "There are many deals."

Mr. Peres told reporters. "A private investment bank in the Middle East was estabhished yesterday involving three countries — Egypt, Jordan and Israel." The joint bank agreed be-

tween the three countries would be separated from the proposed regional bank, he

The private investment bank will be the first joint bank between Israel and Arab states since the Jewish state was established in 1948. Egypt was the first Arab state to sign peace with Israel in 1979 and Jordan signed a treaty last week. Mr. Peres, speaking to re-

porters before entering the final session of the conference, also said Jordan and Israel had agreed to undertake a feasibility study to convert the airport at Aqaba into an international airport serving both countries. He did not say which banks in the three countries would

be involved in the joint banking project. Israel had also concluded agreements in tourism with various countries, Mr. Peres said, but he did not name

them. "There is a fair chance that at the end of this conference, there will be a lot of private business," he said.

The bank would have a base capital of \$2.5 billion. A further \$7.5 billion would be raised from other institu-

tions, Egyptian Privatisation Minister Ali Obeid told the conference. The idea is to create a bank

along the lines of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development which provides \$1 out of every \$7 invested in the countries of post-communist Eastern Europe. Saudi Commerce Minister

Suleiman Al Sulaim, who no-

ticeably shunned contact with

Israelis at the gathering, said earlier the Middle East and North Africa did not need another financial institution. It could fund economic revival "without the need for establishing new administrative institutions which would waste time and effort," Mr.

Monday night. The audience of business people and government officials had just enthusiastically applauded a senior U.S. treasury official telling them that President Bill Clinton backed the bank, a linchpin

Sulaim told delegates on

of economic development. "A development bank can respond to this region's special needs — for integrated infrastructure, for allocation of water, for attracting visitors from around the world, and for reduced barriers to commerce," U.S. Treasury Under-Secretary Lawrence Summers said.

Both Mr. Peres and the U.S. State Department had pushed for the bank, overcoming reluctance from their respective finance ministries to make commitments to an institution which they feared could become a sink hole. Symbolising the improved

ties sweeping the region, Israel and Morocco were to open interest bureaus Tuesday in each others' capitals, a step in the process of mutual diplomatic recognition. Israelis and Arabs joined

international investors in examining how tourism, telecommunications, water sharing and other economic investment can help ensure peace in the Middle East.

The participants were sitting in on panels, meeting in hallways and crowding Casablanca's best restaurants to sound out partners and begin cutting deals.

Water sharing has long been a contentious topic, as Israel's sources of water include reservoirs seized after its war with Syria and subterranean pockets under the occupied West Bank.

Water is a prized resource in the deserts of the arid Middle East. "National aims, including agricultural, employment and social policy are involved in the value of water," said Franklin Fisher, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Telecommunications is

another industry ripe for exploitation that was taken up Monday, as an explosion of information capacity is expected the Middle East as peace breaks out. "Aside from Libya, most

Arab countries want to ride the coattails of the peace process and get on the information highway," said J. Douglas Hauger.

NGOs review proposed plan for Beijing women's meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — A joint plan proposed by nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) in Arab countries and to be submitted to a regional preparatory meeting for the World Conference on Women next year was reviewed here Tuesday by women liaison officers from Jordan and 11 Arab states, according to Haifa Abu Ghazaleh, president of the General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW)

The plan which is to be submitted to a three-day meeting that starts Thursday under the chairmanship of

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, tackled a wide range of topics of concern to Arab women and women's participation in the political, economic and social life of the Arab World, said Dr. Abu Ghazaleh after the meeting. Dr. Abu Ghazaleh, who is

Women to be held in Beijing, said that the joint plan provides for measures that would end all forms of discrimination against women.

the Arab coordinator for the

World Conference on

'At Tuesday's meeting a general review of women's status in the Arab World was

made, with special attention given to obstacles that impede their participation in development and in contributing towards the establishment of peace in the Arab region, said Dr. Abu Gha-

added, discussed how to better qualify women in trade and investment fields under legislation that guarantees these activities. Also, said Dr. Abu Gha-

The liaison officers, she

zaleh, the NGO representatives reviewed ideas to help women participate in the democratic process.

Ministry to implement integrated plan for Petra region development — official

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities is currently implementing an integrated plan for the development of the Petra region aimed at improving the living conditions of the local population and protecting the environment as well as the historical sites, according to Ghassan Mufleh, the ministry's secretary general.

Addressing a visiting delegation of German media professionals, Dr. Mufleh said that the ministry took a decision to limit the daily number of visitors to the ancient city of Petra to

The German delegation is on a familiarisation tour of the touristic and archaeological attractions in the King-

Last August, the government approved ministry plans to raise to JD 20 from JD 5 the entrance fee to Petra for individual foreign tourists. Tourists wishing to visit Petra for more than one day will be charged JD 25 for a two-day pass and JD 30 for a threeday pass.

Pointing out that Petra and other attractions in the kingdom are witnessing a signficant increase in the number of visitors from different countries, Dr. Mufleh said that the new era of peace was expected to further advance

the tourism industry. Dr. Mufleh said that Germany is the most important market, and Jordan has been promoting its touristic and archaeological sites there in an effort to expand that mar-

Referring to regional cooperation, Dr. Musleh said that Jordan was exploring all prospects for cooperation to benefit its tourism industry and is continually seeking joint projects to help promote its treasures, including holding joint fairs and participating in international tourism forums.

Canadian envoy inaugurates bakery at refugee camp rehabilitation centre

IRBID (J.T.) — Canadian Ambassador to Jordan Andrew Robinson Tuesday inaugurated an automated bakery at the Community Rehabilitation Centre at Martyr Azim Al Mufti refugee camp near Huson city. In a brief address at the

ceremony Mr. Robinson said that Canada, which contributed JD 18,400 to establish the bakery, fully backs the peace process and the improvement of the refugees' living conditions. To underline his country's

backing for the peace pro-

cess, he said it is hoped that the bakery would constitute the first step towards future 'similar Canadian-funded pro-

Works Agency (UNRWA) Affairs Director in Jordan Ele Saaf delivered a speech lauding the efforts of a local camp committee to improve the social conditions of the disabled and handicapped persons.

tion to Canada for the donation and its continued con-

annual budget.

work to support the disabled United Nations Relief and

Mr. Saaf voiced apprecia-

tribution to the agency's

According to an UNRWA

statement the bakery will

and part of the running costs of the centre. The Community Rehabilitation Centre was established in 1987 to provide day care for disabled persons in the refugee camp; it currently

serves 50 disabled people. Canada is a major contributor to the UNRWA budget, with more than \$8 million for 1994.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Hotel.

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

PLAY

Play for children (in Arabic) entitled Hakaya Abu Al Ajah" (Strange Stories) at the Royal Cultural Centre at 5:00 p.m.

FILM

* Film entitled "Wild West" at the British Council at 7:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

* Exhibition of art by Annie Sakkab at the

French Cultural Centre. * Exhibition of oil paintings by Iraqi artist * The First Computer Art Exhibition in the Ibrahim Al Abdali at Orfali Art Gallery.

 ★ Exhibition of art by Adnan Al Sharif at A' ad Art Gallery. * A special exhibition of "Polluted City -

Centre. * Exhibition of oil paintings by Iman Khaled and Fawzi Rasoul at Baladna Art Gallery. * Art exhibition by Olia Bseiso and an

the Monuments" at the Royal Cultural

exhibition of Arabic calligraphy at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art. * Exhibition of textiles artisty and patchwork by Tunlikki Haddadin at the Gallery located at the Jordan Inter. Continental

* Exhibition entitled "Spanish Modern Engraving and Multiplied Sculpture" at the Jordan National Gallery, Jabal Luweibdeh (Tel. 630128).

Arab World at Ain Art Gallery.

28th of September."

"They were tied up and

shot by AK-47. I've known

this for a long time by

(General Noun) Paet ordered

my men to say they were sent

rently searching for Gen.

Noun Paet, Mr. Mouly said.

we are searching for him, and

if we capture him I think he

must be punished," he said.

week seized Vine Mountain

but there was no sign of the

hostages or of Gen. Paet.

who was believed to have

escaped west to more secure

who took part in the train

ambush but had since de-

fected would be pardoned, he

on the fate of the hostage

since a videotape and a letter

were received in Phnom Penh

On Tuesday the British

embassy issued a toughly-

There had been no word

Khmer Rouge defectors

rebel-held areas.

on Sept. 2.

The Cambodian army last

The government was cur-

"He's refused to defect so

to the border," he said.

PHNOM PENH (R) — ched at gunpoint to a Khmer Three Western hostages were executed by their Khmer Rouge captors and their remains have been exhumed as evidence, Cambodia's second Prime Minister Hun Sen said Tuesday.

report the deaths of the three Westerners. The three are hostages. dead — they were killed by the Khmer Rouge," Hun Sen said in the southern town of Kampot.

The remains of the three were exhumed Tuesday from graves discovered near Vine Mountain in southern Kampot province.

"The Khmer Rouge detained them from the train ambush and then they killed them. This means clearly the Khmer Rouge are murderers of the Cambodian people and they now kill foreigners too," Mr. Hun Sen said.

Briton Mark Slater, 28, Jean-Michel Braquet, 27. from France and David Wilson, 29, an Australian, were taken hostage by the Khmer Rouge on July 26 after a train ambush in southern Kampot province in which 13 people were killed.

Along with three ethnic Vietnamese and an unknown number of Cambodians, the three foreigners were mar-

Rouge base in nearby Vine Mountain, which is about 150 kilometres south of Phnom

Information Minister leng Mouly had announced earlier Tuesday the discovery of the "Today, I would like to graves believed to contain the bodies of the three Western

"The Royal Cambodian government regrets to announce that graves believed to contain the bodies of the three Western hostages were located Monday, Oct. 31. in the Vine Mountains in Kampot province," he said in a statement.

Mr. Hun Sen said the remains recovered from the graves would be brought from Vine mountain to Kampot town later Tuesday. He said a military guard had been posted at the site to protect the graves.

"I would like to express my condolences to the fathers of the three and I would like to condemn those who killed the three abducted from the train." Mr. Hun Sen said.

Mr. Mouly said the embassies of Australia. Britain and France have been notified of the discovery and representatives were invited to attend the exhumation.

He said he believed the trio

worded travel advisory rewere executed "around the questing that their nationals avoid Cambodia because of A senior Khmer Rouge deits security problems. fector told Reuters Sunday

"The situation in Cambothe three Westerners were dia poses serious security killed on the orders of General Noun Paet, the insurgent risks. British visitors are advised not to visit the councommander at Vine Mountry," it said.

Britain condemned the killings as a barbaric outrage and said it would press Cambodia to bring those responsible to justice.

"This tragic and senseless killing of an innocent British tourist in Cambodia is an outrage," Antony Baldry, parliamentary under-secretary of state at the Foreign Office said in a statement.

"We shall press the Cambodian authorities to do everything in their power to ensure there are no further abductions of innocent foreign tourists and that the perpetrators of this appalling crime are brought to justice.'

French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe called the killings an "odious and cowardly act" and asked that the body of the French victim, Jean-Michel Braquet, 27, be returned to his family.

"The French government demands that all possible for this crime be identified and punished," Mr. Juppe said in a statement.

arrives in

TBILISI, Georgia (AP) —

U.N. Secretary-General

Boutros Ghali arrived here

Monday to discuss plans for

the return of Georgian re-

fugees into the secessionist

to reinforce relations be-

tween the United Nations

and Georgia," Dr. Ghali told

reporters after meeting with

the Georgian leader, Eduard

the U.N. is to preserve and

reinforce the political inde-

pendence, the territorial in-

tegrity and the inviolability of

the boundaries of the mem-

Mr. Shevardnadze, a for-

mer Soviet foreign minister

who returned to lead his na-

tive Georgia in 1992, praised

Dr. Ghali's three-day visit as

having a "historic importance

Mr. Shevardnadze has

come under increasing press-

ure from the opposition,

which has blamed him for

signing a Moscow-brokered

truce with Abkhazian separ-

Russia has sent some 3,000

peacekeepers to Abkhazia.

but they had failed to guaran-

tee the return of the Geor-

gian refugees into the lush

gan in the summer of 1992

when Georgian government

soldiers marched into the

province in a bid to root out

The bloodshed, which

embarked on a feverish cam-

paign for Democratic candi-

dates in need of a midterm

Monday morning and then

was heading across the state

to Pittsburgh to attend rallies

for Sen. Harris Wofford and

Gubernatorial candidate

Mark Singel, both in tough

races in a state Mr. Clinton

courtyard of Philadelphia

City Hall, Mr. Clinton said,

"every day more and more

Americans are beginning to

know that the real issue here

is who will fight for ordinary

Americans. ... The answer is,

Speaking at a rally in the

carried two years ago.

Mr. Clinton flew here early

election lift.

the secessionist movement.

The war in Abkhazia be-

Black Sea province.

ber states," he said.

"One of the obligations of

"The purpose of my visit is

province of Abkhazia.

Shevardnadze.

for Georgia."

atist leaders.

Georgia

Ghali



people are presumed dead in the crash in a Indiana State Police Sgt. Pat King briefs reporters about the crash of American Eagle farm field near Roselawn, Indiana (AFP commuter Flight 4184. Authorities say 68 photo)

Commuter plane crashes in U.S., 68 die

ROSELAWN, Indiana (AP) — An American Eagle commuter plane crashed in a cornfield during a driving rainstorm, killing all 68 people aboard.

Flight 4184 from Indianapolis to Chicago went down 48 kilometres south of Gary in northwest Indiana at about 4 p.m. (2000 GMT), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said.

Heavy rain forced authorities to quickly halt the search of the area until Tuesday.

American Eagle would not speculate on the possible cause of the crash, airline

spokeswoman Debbie Weathers said. State police and airline officials said nobody survived.

Larry Midkiff said he was driving along a highway when he spotted a black puff of smoke and the plane banking sharply before it plunged to the ground.

"It didn't look like it had a left wing on it," Mr. Midkiff said. "It just looked like a black streak coming down." there was driving rain at the

People on the scene said time of the crash and that it was too dark to see much in the area. Winds were gusting

to 79 kph (49 mph) in Gary, the closest reporting station, the National Weather Service

"Debris was so scattered you really couldn't tell if there was an airplane out there," said Michael Schwanke, a reporter with WLQI Radio in Rensselaer who was at the site.

The plane was descending from an altitude of 3,000 metres (10.000 feet) to 2.500 metres (8,000 feet) when it disappeared from radar screens at Chicago's O'Hare Airport, said Don Zochert with the FAA.

Mexico's Zapatista rebel leader threatens war by the year's end

SAN CRISTOBAL, Mexico (AFP) — Zapatista rebel leader Subcomandante Marcos threatened Thursday to end a ceasefire with the government and launch and all-

out war by year's end. President Carlos Salinas "has done everything possible to end his term in office with a war, and he is going to get it," Comm. Marcos said in a message to the government's chief negotiator with the rebels. Mr. Salinas' term ends on Dec. 1.

The Zapatista National Liberation Army (AZLN) rose up against the federal government on Jan. 1 demanding. better health care and social benefits for the people of Chiapas, Mexico's poorest state, as well as democratic

reform on a national level The Zapatistas have observed a ceasefire since Jan. 13, and began negotiations with the government which since have broken

In a message addressed to federal peace commissioner Jorge Madrazo, Comm. Marcos said the Mexican army was constantly making threatening moves in territory controlled by the Zapatistas.

"Either you are trying to fool us, or you are an accomplice to the future break in the ceasefire, or they are fooling you, too," Comm. Marcos wrote.

Mr. Madrazo earlier

separating the Mexican army from the rebel force, and that federal officials were committed to negotiating a peaceful settlement.

But according to Comm. Marcos, "in its deeds, the government has insisted on a military solution to the conflict (and) the reports we have made on the acts of intimidation by government forces — giving the places. dates and times — have not been denied.'

The rebel leadership however has said it accepts in principle the initiative of the -mediator in the conflict, San Cristobal Bishop Samuel Ruiz, to find a political solution. Bishop Ruiz met Sunday with Mr. Salinas and Mr. Madrazo on the Chiapas

The EZLN repeatedly has accused the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) of covering up crimes and internal party struggles in order to maintain its 65-year lock on national rule.

Comm. Marcos' communique listed conditions for renewing peace talks, including the bringing to justice of "the real culprits" in the May 1993 murder of Guadalajara Cardinal Juan Jesus Posadas; the March 1994 assassination of PRI presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio; and the September 1994 murder of PRI Secretary General Francisco Ruiz Masseiu.

Possible links to drug traf-

Officials said Mr. Posadas was shot dead in the parking lot of the Guadalajara Airport when drug traffickers mistook him for the leader of a rival drug gang.

There also has been speculation that Mr. Colosio, and possibly Mr. Ruiz Masseiu, were targetted by conservatives in the PRI opposed to making the party more democratic.

Meanwhile, a Mexican judge sentenced a 23-year old man to 42 years in prison Monday for the March murder of Mr. Colosio. Mario Aburto Martinez

confessed to the March 23 assassination in the northern city of Tijuana of the presidential frontrunner but said he only meant to hurt Mr. Colosio. In a statement, the state

prosecutor general said that Judge Alejandro Sosa Ortiz found Mr. Martinez guilty of "premeditated and willful murder" based on the evidence presented by federal authorities.

A special investigator assigned to the Colosio case said Mr. Martinez, a poor, uneducated man, acted alone but several officials have raised the possibility of a plot including a former aide to the Attorney General Eduardo

Mr. Valle argued that Mr. Colosio's death was linked to the drug trade and that powerful cartels should be investigated for their possible involvement in the assassina-

Freedom has a price in Talwan

TAIPEI (AFP) - People who return captive beasts tothe wild may be jailed and fined 150,000 Taiwan dollars (\$5,769) under the amended Wildlife Conservation Law, officials said here Sunday. Under the revised law, the freeing of both protected and non-protected species of wildlife is banned, and the purchase of protected species of animals, even to free them, is considered collaboration with poachers. The agriculture officials said releasing captured animals monkeys, snakes, birds, turtles and fish are the most common — into the wild damages the ecology cycle. The animals are rarely able to return to their original living areas, they added. The officials added that they were especially warning Buddhists. who, they said, buy wild animals and set them free as a good deed to accrue merit. Taiwan Thursday amended the wildlife law to add punishments of up to seven years in jail and fines to up to 2.5 million Taiwan dollars. and President Lee Teng-Hui promulgated it Saturday. The law was aimed at alleviating international pressure on Taiwan to protect endangered species. The United Nations Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species will hold an al annual meeting next month to decide whether to impose worldwide trade sanctions against Taiwan for failing to check the illegal trade in thinoceros horns and tiger bones.

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Over-use closes **Dutch electronic** porn archives

DELFT, Netherlands (R) -So many people tapped into the electronic pornography archives at a Dutch university that its computer overloaded and the service had to be closed. Since the archives at Delft's Technical University were hooked up to the worldwide Interntet computer network in 1992, up to 10,000 people a day had consulted their comprehensive picture collection, an archives spokesman said. Most of them were Americans and Britons. In the end, the miversity computer failed to cope with demand, the spokesman said.

Oscar winner Paquin offered

role in Pinnochio WELLINGTON (AP) -Anna Paquin, who won an Oscar this year for playing Holly Hunter's precocious daughter in The Piano, is considering a role in a movie version of the children's classic Pinnochio. The 12-yearold's agent, Gail Cowan, said Monday director Francis Ford Coppola wants her for the film due to be shot in England next year. "She has looked at a script, and has been offered a role. But there's nothing concrete at the moment," said Ms. Cowan, who gave no further details. Anna, who never acted professionally before debuting in The Piano, was named best supporting actress at the Oscars in March. Since then the schoolgirl has signed with Los Angelesbased agency William Morris to help cope with a flood of offers from producers. Her parents, known to be very protective of their daughter, could not be immediately contacted for comment.

Violent crime surges on U.S. streets — report

WASHINGTON (AFP) -Violent crimes such as robberies and assaults soared more than three times faster last year than crime as a whole in the United States, the Justice Department said Sunday. Violent crimes were up 5.6 per cent in 1993 to 10.9. million, according to the annual National Crime Victimisation Survey by the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Meanwhile, the total number of personal and household Thirth it is crimes — totalling 43.6 million — rose 1.6 per cent from 1992, the report said. "It's no wonder crime is America's number-one concern," said Charles Shumer, a Democrat from New York and chairman of the House Judiciary Committee's crime panel. "We've become a society of victims or people afraid of becoming victims." The sur-The state of the s vey was based on interviews with 100,000 people aged 12 The form of the form of the first of the fir and older, estimating totals from personal and telephone contacts. While the Federal Bureau of Investigation's unified crime reports tally only. crimes reported to police, the victimisation survey includes many unreported incidents.

U.S., Burma officials hold talks RANGOON (Agencies) ited States, including human

Senior U.S. diplomats met with Burmese junta chief Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt Tuesday in the first high-level discussion between the two countries in six years, embassy sources said.

Details of the talks, which were described only as "lengthy," were not immediately available. The four-member U.S. de-

legation, led by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Hubbard, also met with Rangoon's foreign minister, Ohn Gyaw, according to the sources. Mr. Hubbard. who special-

ises in East Asian and Pacific affairs, arrived Monday with a representative of the U.S. National Security Council for talks with the junta "on issues of concern to the Un-

rights, democratisation and counter-narcotics efforts," a U.S. State Department statement said.

The visit was not reported in the local print media Tuesday, but was expected to feature in radio and television broadcasts.

The U.S. delegation is scheduled to leave Rangoon for Bangkok on Wednesday and hold a press conference. The United States is one of

a few hold-out countries which continue to support sanctions against the State Law and Order Restoration Council, or SLORC, the official name of Rangoon's ruling military regime.

Following a bloody crackdown in 1988 on a pro-democracy uprising, in which

thousand were killed. Washington severed contacts with the military junta. But some of Washington's

main allies, Europe and Australia, relaxed their own positions recently, adopting a "critical dialogue" and a "constructive engagement," respectively, with the junta.

Meanwhile a senior junta official said Tuesday recent talks between Burma's military government and detained dissident Aung San Suu Kyi were not the result of pressure from any quarter. Lieutenant-General Khin

Nyunt told a Rangoon teachers' conference Monday the talks, the second round of which took place Friday, covered political and economic efforts being made by the junta and measures to be taken in future.



Policemen with an AK-47 rifle guard Bela Josef Nuss, an American tourist rescued from a hideout of Kashmiri militants (AFP photo)

Indian police free 4 Western hostages

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian police said Tuesday they had freed unharmed four Western tourists held hostage by alleged Kashmiri separatists and threatened with beheading unless 10 jailed militants were released.

Two policemen and a militant were killed in two raids that abruptly ended the hostage-taking 12 hours after the militants threatened to kill the three Britons and one American.

The British and U.S. embassies said they learned of the kidnappings by the previously unknown Kashmiri group Al Hadid only after a note was delivered to foreign news organisations in Delhi Monday afternoon. "Unless our brothers are

released, our Western hostages — the guests of the Indian government - will be beheaded one at a time," read the letter.

Police said that just hours later the U.S. hostage, English teacher Bela Nuss from Walnut Creek, California, was found almost accidently in a village 40 kilometres from Delhi.

Mr. Nuss, 43, was taken hostage in New Delhi on the night of Oct. 19 by a man he had befriended, a U.S. diplomat said. He was hooded, put in a van, and driven away. Police said they went to Mussourie village to investigate reports of suspicious activities and saw someone iump from a roof. After breaking down the door because they heard noises from inside, they found Mr. Nuss

chained to the wall. Police staked out the building and later a van containing several men drew up outside. After a shootout and a car chase, the men, who were Kashmiris, were captured, police said.

Under interrogation, they revealed the three British hostages — identified as Paul Benjamin Ridout, Christopher Myles Croston and Rhys Partridge — were being held in Saharanpur, some 150 kilometres north of Delhi.

Police said they then freed the three Britons in a second shootout in which two policemen were killed. One militant, identified as Mohammad Ali, also died in a raid launched about 3.30 a.m. (2200 GMT Monday). No militants were captured.

A British diplomat said it appeared the three Britons had also been kidnapped by people who befriended them in the Indian capital. It was not known when they were abducted, although one checked out of a Delhi hotel

on Oct. 26. All four hostages were in good health, police said. Mr. Nuss was transferred to Delhi early Tuesday and the three Britons were expected in the capital later in the day. "We are very pleased with expected with the outcome," a

British diplomat said. Neither the British nor U.S. governments were in touch with the militants during the hostage-taking, and no deal was made with the captors for their release, diplomats said.

Some of the many Kashmiri groups leading an anti-Indian revolt over the past five years have kidnapped Indian officials and businessmen.

Foreigners have been kidnapped three times, and one Israeli tourist was killed in a bungled hostage-taking All of the previous kidnaps

occurred in Kashmir, where police and hospitals have reported more than 17,000 deaths since the revolt erupted in January 1990. Mr. Nuss told Reuters his captors said they had sent a message to the Indian government shortly after he was captured saying they wanted New Delhi to release the 10

jailed militants. A senior police official said it appeared the militants wanted international media attention and some "bargaining chips" to convince the British and U.S. governments to press India to bow to Kashmiri separatists' de-

mands. It was not known why New Delhi, if it did indeed know of the kidnappings, had not notified the British and U.S. governments.

Several officials said they first knew of the kidnappings was when the demand notes were delivered to foreign news bureaux in Delhi. "It's a little weird," one said.

days before the vote.

"We have no illusion about how tough these midterms

we are — and you need to help us win on Nov. 8." The sun has begun to shine on this election," he for big business. I don't want While Mr. Clinton's own tax cuts for the wealthy. I job is not at stake, his effecdon't want to run up the tiveness as a leader and his deficit. I don't want cuts in social security." party's future are being tested in the Nov. 8 general election. The outcome will

next Congress and the leadership of several U.S. states. Although many Democratic candidates are keeping their distance from Mr. Clinton, a growing number welcome his support now that the latest round of polls

determine the makeup of the

"The wind is at the backs of Democratic candidates

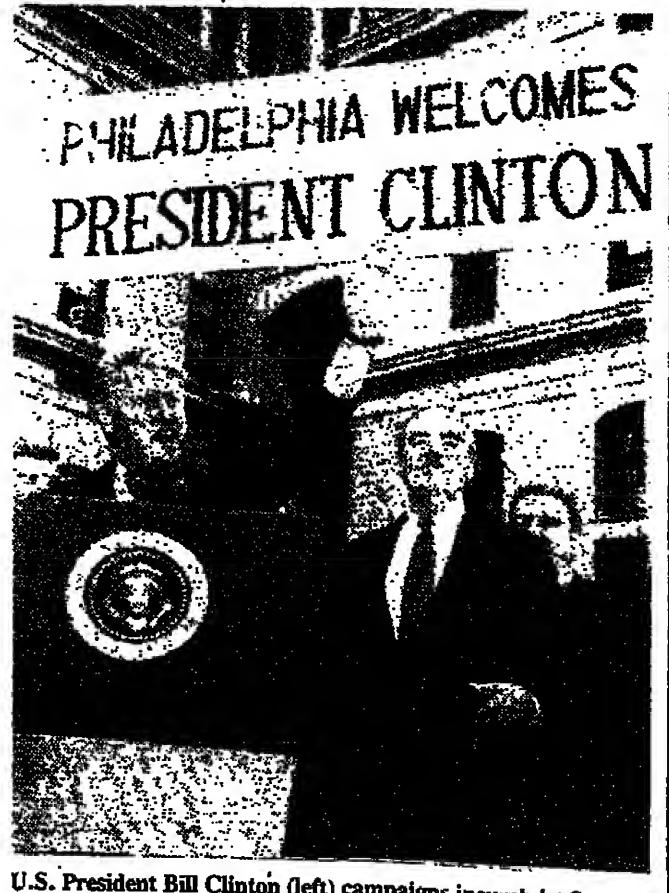
now," Vice President Al Gore said Sunday on ABC-

Democratic National Committee Chairman David Wilhelm, travelling with the president to this important political state, predicted that Democrats would do no worse next week than the party of sitting presidents have historically done.

will be. But the tide is turn-' Mr. Wilhelm told reporters at the airport here. He said Democrats are slowly convincing voters that Republicans are not looking out for ordinary Americans. "People are saying, wait a minute. I don't want tax cuts

The president's standing among voters was no doubt helped by a series of foreign policy successes, including occupying Haiti, standing up to Iraq's Saddam Hussein and last week's Middle East trip where he witnessed the historic Israel-Jordan peace

Almost immediately after



U.S. President Bill Clinton (left) campaigns incumbent Senator Harris Wofford (2nd R) at Philadelphia City Hall. Mr. Clinton is travelling the country this week in support of Democrats running in this year's elections (AFP photo)

returning home from the ton returned to his political Mideast Saturday, Mr. Clin-

claimed more than 3.000 announced that verification lives, ended last fall when ficking have been suggested Abkhazian forces defeated commissions were being set in all three murder cases, but the Georgians and drove up at military posts at the such a connection has only them out of Abkhazia. entrance to neutral territories been pursued in the Posadas

Clinton is back on campaign trail shows his numbers are on the PHILADELPHIA (AP) rise. He planned to visit at Fresh from the pomp and ceremony of his Mideast trip, least nine states in the eight President Bill Clinton

Ben himlecter, thecter wildlife is banned, and, imegrave of brodected the in summits exem to b them, is considered; latheration with budge The agentificial country releasing captured annual menkers, maker inds. the and tiels are the h me. the Hamager the control of the simumb are turch able legister for their consensual inarras thes added the ac cists added that they be pelies, they will but by amulale and set them free growt street to mention lawan limital ameni the wildite in he les immegnicula in the for soil

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Over-use closes Dutch electronic porn archives 1 PHRET, Setherunderka

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> Oscar winner Paquin offered role in Pinnochio WILLIAM N AT

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China pledges to promote peace in Korea SEOUL (R) - Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng, on the second day of a groundbreaking trip to South Korea, promised Tuesday to play a constructive role in easing cold war tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Meeting his South Korean counterpart Lee Yung-Dug. Mr. Li said China believed peace and stability on the peninsula was essential for peace in Asia.

"Prime Minister Li said China will play a constructive role in promoting peace on the peninsula." Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman shen Guofang told a news

He quoted Mr. Li, the highest Chinese Communist official ever to visit South Korea, as saying he saw huge potential to develop already substantial trade and economic ties.

The South Korean prime minister responded by saving the South did not intend to unify the Korean peninsula by absorbing the Communist North, a Seoul government sookesman said.

President Kim Young-Sam, meeting Mr. Li at the president's official residence. the Blue House, Monday asked for China's help in ensuring the North kept its part of a nuclear deal with the United States.

The North Tuesday said it had halted construction of two controversial graphitemoderated reactors in line with the deal signed in Geneve last month.

"We have already begun taking practical steps to put it (the pact) into effect," a North Korean Foreign Minisby spokesman was quoted as saying by the Korean Central News Agency monitored in

"The DPRK (North Korean) Administration Council decided to stop the construction of the 50,000 and 200,000 kilowatt graphitemoderated reactors from the beginning of November," the official news service said.

Under the Oct. 21 accord the United States said it would assemble an interna-



North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il gestures during his inspection tour of a tomb of an ancient Korean king (AFP photo)

tional consortium to finance have an equal place in Beij- brisk hand gestures at the the \$4 billion construction of either one 2,000-megawatt or two 1,000-megawatt light-water reactors that do not produce weapons-grade plutonium.

The agreement has eased tensions on both sides of the cold war border but there are no signs yet of a resumption of high-level inter-Korean talks, which Washington made a condition for further progress with Pyongyang.

Mr. Kim told Mr. Li he was willing to hold a summit with North Korea's Kim Jong-II, son and political heir of late "great leader" Kim Il-Sung, if he officially assumed the leadership titles of his father. North Korea is Communist

China's oldest friend, with links forged by the 1950-53 Korean War when Chinese "volunteers" saved the North from defeat. China suffered a million dead or wounded in that conflict.

But in today's China the magic word is economics not politics and the country is eagerly courting South Korean trade and investment,

China's national newspapers played a careful balancing game Tuesday to indicate that North and South Korea

ing's affections. While the People's Daily and other newspapers gave over the left of the front page to Li's trip, the right hand side had a photograph and story about the meeting of president and Communist Party head Jiang Zemin with North Korean officials.

Mr. Li toured a car plant owned by Daewoo motor company at Pupyong west of Seoul Tuesday afternoon. In July Daewoo signed a \$2 billion deal to build a car parts factory in Shandong pro-

Since they established diplomatic ties in 1992, economic relations between the two nations have boomed. China ranks South Korea its sixth larges trading partner while China is Seoul's third

North Korea Tuesday sent video footage of Kim Jong-II touring an ancient tomb last weekend to Japanese television networks, in a possible campaign to dispel doubts about his leadership and

The 10-minute footage showed the 52-year-old eldest son of the late President Kim Il-Sung giving instructions to officials around him with

newly built tomb of Korea's legendary founder Tangun. The footage was not

accompanied by any oncamera speech but songs and praises of the "great leader" senior Kim, who died on July 8 at the age of 82, and the "Dear Leader" junior Kim.

Kim Jong-Il, the supreme armed forces commander, who has not yet formally taken over as state president and ruling party chief, visited the tomb Saturday in his third public appearance since his father's funeral on July 20.

On Oct. 16, he attended the 100-day memorial service for his late father after staying out of the public eye for 88 days and stirring speculation about his health and possible internal power struggle.

North Korea announced last year the discovery of the remains of the god king, Tangun, who was regarded by South Korean historians as only a mythical figure, near the capital Pyongyang.

The move was widely seen abroad as an effort to give historical legitimacy to the North's Communist regime and elevate the late senior Kim to a similar god-like status in the history of Korea.

U.S., S. Korea begin war games as North protests

SEOUL (R) — The United States and South Korea launched a week of military exercises Tuesday despite last month's U.S.-North Korean ** noclear agreement, prompting an angry protest from

Pyongyang. North Korea said Tuesday it had halted construction of two controversial reactors as pan of last month's Geneva scoord with the United States, which was aimed at reshaping its nuclear prog-

The exercise, designed to test rear area protection operations, started as planned." a South Korean Defence

Ministry spokesman said. The South Korean army's Capital Garrison Command. tesponsible for protecting Scoul, also began a separate four-day exercise in and around the city, the spokes-

Only two weeks ago the United States and South Korea cancelled their major Team Spirit military exercise

help encourage North Korea to forego its nuclear programme, which the West believes is also aimed at producing nuclear arms.

"The war exercises are a premeditated provocation to keep the situation on the Korean peninsula strained and incite North-South confrontation." Pyongyang's official Korea Central News Agency said Tuesday.

The agency accused South Korea of trying to wreck the Geneva deal, which calls for improving relations between Pyongyang and Washington.

"The exercises are a display of their reckless war frenzy to throw a wet blanket over the framework agreement between the DPRK (North Korea) and the United States... further aggravate North-South relations and drive the situation on the Korean peninsula back to the brink of war." it said.

The Defence Ministry spokesman in Seoul brushed aside the North's charges against the South as the "usual predictable prop-

He said the joint field training exercise, condemned Foal Eagle 1994, was an annual event separate from Team Spirit for which tens of thousands of U.S. troops are

"We face real threats from North Korea and it is important to hone our military capability to cope with such threats." he added.

Foal Eagle involves the majority of more than 36,000 American troops stationed in South Korea and 650,000 local soldiers, but none from

outside the area. Last month U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry told a news conference in Seoul the United States would not ease its guard against North Korea despite their Geneva

Mr. Perry said the United States would not cut its forces in the South until North Korea reduced its massive

forces deployed along the border with South Korea.

South Korean Defence Minister Rhee Byoung-Tae said in parliament Tuesday the North maintained its capability to mass-produce chemical weapons.

But Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hong-Koo told parliament the Seoul government was working on a new programme to seek detente, cooperation and an eventual reunification of the two Koreas, divided after World

Mr. Lee said Monday the South would soon offer to restart economic exchanges with North Korea.

Under the Geneva deal, North Korea agreed to freeze its nuclear programme based on graphite reactors.

The United States, in exchange, would organise an international consortium, including South Korea and Japan, to finance building of safer light-water reactors in North Korea.

Rwandan Hutus kill 36 in cross-border attack

NAIROBI (R) — A "band of criminals" from Zaire killed 36 people in an attack on a border area of northwest Rwanda and fled back to Zaire, state-run Rwandan Radio said Tuesday.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said three families were attacked in Kinyanzovu sector and at Byahi in Gisenvi prefecture Monday night.

It said the "band of criminels" then fled back into

The BBC report gave no more details of the attack. which if confirmed is the worst involving Rwandans since gammen butchered 54 Rwandan refugees in a horder village in northern Burundi on Oct. 24.

U.N. officials have said defeated Rwandan militismen and troops loyal to the former Hum government who fled into Zaure when rehels won a three-month civil war in Rwanda in July have been harassing and attacking resi-

dents in border areas. An estimated 1.3 million Rwandan refugees live in Zaire including tens of thousands of Rwandan mili-Atlanta and troops.

The former government in trile in Zaire has accused the victorious Rwanda Patriotic Army of staughtering returnmg refugees. The new government in Kigali has said there were isolated cases of revenge killings but no systematic campaign.

Rwandan soldiers armed with rocket-propelled grenades surrounded 10 Australian peacekeepers in a standoff that lasted several hours, a U.N. military spokesman said Tuesday.

"It's a serious incident, the first one of its kind," said Captain Stephane Grenier.

Capt. Grenier said the Australians were travelling in an armoured personnel carrier to investigate an outbreak of shooting in Kigali's Kicukiro suburb at dusk Monday when they were stopped by soldiers of the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF).

The Australians ran one RPF checkpoint but were held up minutes later when 30 heavily-armed soldiers surrounded their vehicle. "An RPF haison officer finally came down and de-

fused the tension," said Capt. Grenier. Capt. Grenier said U.N. military observers had reported that a family was

heing attacked in the crawded Kicukiro district. He said he had no further details about the incident. U.N. Assistance Mission In Rwanda (UNAMIR) officials say they are seeing a growing trend of robbery and violence by RPF soldiers who

won the bloody civil war three months ago but have yet to receive any salaries from the impoverished govemment.

Relations between the U.N.'s 5,00-strong military force, which includes 300 Australians, and Rwanda's new government are generally good although blue helmets have been denied access to some insecure areas.

Meanwhile hundreds of villagers have been killed in ethnic clashes in the hills of northeast Zaire triggered by the influx of Hutu refugees fleeign Rwanda, aid workers

They say the arrival of thousands of Hutus, many of them heavily armed, in the hills 50 kilometres northwest of the town of Goma had exacerbated decades-old tensions between local Zaireans and villagers of Rwandan ori-

Since late September, local Hunde tribesmen and Hutu villagers — some born in Zaire, some recent arrivals from Rwanda - had been raiding each others villages. looting, stealing cattle and

setting fire to huts. Aid agencies visiting the Masisi region estimate about 250 villagers had died in the clashes and 32,500 people. including 22,700 Hutus and 9,700 Hunde, fled their

"The region is in what you could describe as a pre-war state," said Olivier Barthes, coordinator for the medical charity Medicins Sans Frontieres-Holland, who just returned from a tour of the

"The area is deserted. Whole villages have been abandoned. Everyone is armed to the teeth."

Until recently the fertile zone was home to both the Hunde and what are known locally as the Banyarwanda - Hutus and Tursis caught in Zaire by Belgium's arbitrary colonial division of territory or brought in during the 1940s and 1950s to work the land.

Although many young Banyarwanda were born and brought up in Zaire, they are bitterly resented by the Zairean "autochiones."

Last October brooding resentments over land ownership and voting rights triggered five months of fighting between the communities. leaving 3,000 people dead and 6,000 displaced.

Just as aid organisations iike Britain's Oxfam were registering some success in a programme to resettle these families, the Rwandan civil war spilled over into Zaire, sending a new wave of refugees into an already volatile area.

Bosnian army claims large gains southeast of Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (AFP) — Bosnian government forces Tuesday said they had taken some 50 square kilometres (20 square miles) of territory southeast of Sarajevo over the past few days.

The U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) was unable to confirm or refute the claim, saying their observers inside a demilitarised zone (DMZ) on Mount Igman, west of the battlefield, had lost sight of the combatants as the Bosnian offensive progressed over the hilly ter-

UNPROFOR earlier confirmed that Muslim-led forces, who launched their latest attack in the area at dawn Saturday, had smashed through frontline Serb defences and seized nearby beights from which they could bombard a Serb-held main road heading southeast out of Sarajevo.

The Bosnian 1st Army Corps said in a press release Tuesday that its forces had killed 70 to 80 Serb soldiers in the latest offensive and seized seven T-55 tanks, along with several armoured personnel

A senior U.N. officer suggested the Serbs might have been forced to abandon their tanks because of lack of fuel. as was the case last week on the northwestern Bihac front where government forces have scored an important success.

This would confirm that sanctions, associated with the blockade by Serbia of fuel supplies to Bosnian Serbs, was now hurting their war effort, the officer sug-

Government forces were closing in on the Trnovo road but had not yet reached it, according to the 1st Army

Corps Commander General Vahid Karavelic has issued an order to his troops to treat Serb civilians "humanely," according to the statement which listed a number of places as "liberated." None of these appeared to consist of more than a small village. Gen. Karavelic also said

that the effect of the offensive "would have been even greater if UNPROFOR hadn't prevented our units from coming from the direction of Igman." UNPROFOR has repe-

atedly protested at the use made of the Igman DMZ by government troops who deployed howitzers there to shell the Serbs at the start of the attack. In Zagreb, Croatia, UN-

PROFOR officials said three U.N. Bangladeshi soldiers and five civilians were wounded in overnight artillery exchanges in Bosnia's northwestern Bihac enclave.

One Bangladeshi was injured Monday evening when two shells slammed into the ground yards from his observation post in the vicinity of Otaka in the north of the pocket, sustaining slight injuries to his arms and

Intense artiliery exchanges continued overnight around nearby Bosanska Krupa where heavy fighting has been raging since last week

between Sarajevo government forces and Bosnian Serbs, an UNPROFOR spokesman said in Zagreb. The situation was "ex-

tremely tense, and the balance of forces could change at any moment," he said. Bosanska Krupa remained in Serb hands, but Bosnian government soldiers had surrounded it and tried several

unsuccesfully, he said. Meanwhile, Bosnian Serb forces said Tuesday they had recaptured some of the territory lost to Muslim forces over the past few days.

times to seize control, so far

The Serb counter-thrust began Monday afternoon on front lines around the Serbheld town of Bosanski Petrovac, according to Brian Graham, an official with the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees in Banja Luka. another Serb-controlled com-

munity in western Bosnia. He said the number of ambulances leaving and returning to Banja Luka had noticeably increased late in

the day. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic earlier Monday declared that Serb forces had turned back government offensives in both the northwest and south central Bos-

"Muslim activities have been stopped and conditions have been met to pursue tasks related to the state of war," the Bosnian Serb News Agency (SRNA) quoted Mr. Karadzic as saying after a meeting with his military leaders in Bosanski Petro-

Mr. Karadzic last Friday vowed that his partisans would stage a major counteroffensive after resurgent government troops broke out of the northwest Bihac pocket and capturred some 250 square kilometres of Serbheld territory in a matter of

Alan Roberts, U.N. military spokesman in Serbcontrolled territory in Croatia, meanwhile said it appeared that the regular army had halted its campaign in western Bosnia.

He said his office had received no hard information on a continued government move in the Bihac pocket, adding that Bosnian army troops encircling the town of Bosanska Krupa — located on the northern edge of the pocket — had tried two or three times to capture it

from Serb units. Bosnian Serb officials insisted the offensive had been checked and that government forces had suffered numerous casualties, notably in the Grmec range where 24 soldiers were killed and three captured.

Russia called Tuesday for "measures" to halt attacks by Sarajevo forces on Serbs in northwestern Bosnia.

The attack by Bosnian forces against the Serbs is "a challenge to the United Nations" which "shows that the Muslims have decided to resolve the conflict by arms,' Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigory Karasin told reporters here. "It would be catastrophic if nothing was done to

Angolan forces recapture oil town; truce date set on Nov. 17.

LUANDA (R) - Angolan government forces have recaptured an important oil town from UNITA rebels in heavy fighting, state media reported Tuesday less than 24 hours after the two sides initialled a peace accord.

"Heavy fighting is going on in the municipality of Soyo after its reoccupation by the Angolan army," state Jornal De Angola said.

Government troops had also been advancing on the UNITA stronghold of Huambo. a government source

Under the accord reached in the Zambian capital Lusaka, the government and UN-ITA are to declare a ceasefire

The truce in hostilities after nearly two decades of civil war will take place two days after the formal signing of the agreement by President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos and UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi, according to a copy of the agreement obtained by Reu-

ters in Lusaka. A joint commission will be based in Luanda to monitor the ceasefire,

But a government source told Reuters fighting took place on several central fronts Monday as government forces advanced towards Huambo in the central highlands where Mr. Savimbi has his headquarters.

The source said the government captured Londuimbali, the first town in Huambo province on the main road east from the Atlantic Ocean port of Benguela. He said a government

thrust on a smaller road east

from Benguela was only 40 kilometres from Huambo, but was being held back by UNITA minefields. An aid source told Reuters that government forces were

also moving south towards Huambo from the north. The report on the fighting at Soyo was the first official confirmation that govern-

the town, the centre of Ango-

However, the Brazilian

public relations company that

la's on-shore oil industry.

Soyo, 40 kilometres south of Cabinda, was responsible for more than 25,000 barrels a day of onshore oil production before UNITA captured it early in 1993. Industry sources have said onshore oil facilities have been heavily damaged.

Diplomats said that despite the peace accord they anticipated a surge in fighting as the two sides tried to gain territory before any halt in the war which erupted on 1975 independence from Por-

The accord also said the two sides were expected to announce an amnesty and free political prisoners before the signing.

Mozambican leader's election lead looks strong

MAPUTO (AFP) - Mozambique's President Joaquim Chissano seems likely to win last week's post civil war elections with a large majority according to latest projec-

According to United Nations and international observor sources who monitored elections, Mr. Chissano is likely to win with a majority of between 54 and 55 per cent

of the presidential vote. The same sources suggest Mr. Chissano's key rival opposition leader. Afonso Dhlakama, is likely to win some 35 per cent of the national vote, held under U.N. supervision and in

terms of a May 1991 peace These predictions suggest a second round of voting to will not be necessary. U.N. and international

observer estimates put Mr. Chissano's ruling Mozambique Liberation Front (FRE-LIMO) party ahead of Mr. Dhlakama's ex-guerrilla force, which waged war on the formerly Marxist regime after independence from Portugal in 1975 at the cost of a million lives.

estimates indicated that both

FRELIMO and the formerly rebel Mozambique National Resistance (RENAMO) parties are trailing behind their U.N. sources estimate that around 48 per cent of the

legislative vote will go to

FRELIMO and some 42 per

cent to RENAMO, suggest-

In the parliamentary polls,

has been promoting FRELI-MO's campaign predicts a 60 per cent win for its client against 28 per cent of the vote for RENAMO. Such a result could raise cries of foul from RENAMO.

that fraud was being planned to defeat them. The National Elections Commission has 15 days following the three-day elections, which finished Saturday, to announce the official

which has repeatedly claimed

results at provincial and national levels. The failure of any candidate in the presidential race

— which also saw 10 minor

contenders — to win an out-

right majority of 50 per cent

plus one vote would entail a

weeks of the announcement. The State Department said Monday it was "very pleased and encouraged" with the results of weekend elections held in Mozambique that crowned a two-year peace process in the southern African country.

Deputy Secretary of State George Moose told a news conference that initial results showed turnout to be between 80 and 90 per cent. "I think that's remarkable

considering the difficulties that people faced in going to the poils," he said. "I think it's also a very clear indication of the desire. strong desire, on the part of

Mozambicans to put the past,

the most recent 10 to 15 years

of Mozambican history be-

hind them," he added. second round within three decide the presidential victor ing a bi-polar parliament. Charles, Diana marriage was 'troubled on honeymoon'

LONDON (R) — Prince Charles's marriage to Princess Diana began to unravel on honeymoon annd was in serious trouble within 12 months of their fairytale wedding in 1981, an authorised biography of the heir to

throne revealed Tuesday. "The Prince Of Wales" which went on sale Tuesday, paints Princess Diana as a neurotic young woman not averse to emotional blackmail and capable of conniving with the press to get her own back on the heir to the throne.

By contrast, author Jonathan Dimbleby goes out of his way to portray Prince Charles as a heroic figure battling against Princess Diana's moods, a warm, caring father and husband misunderstood by his wife and the British public.

"It is not perhaps too fanciful to suppose that future generations will judge that in the latter half of the 20th century Britain was blessed to have as heir to the throne an individual of singular distinction and virtue," the 566page book ends.

Mr. Dimbleby reveals that a summer honeymoon spent cruising the Mediterranean highlighted the couple's incompatibility and showed Princess Diana how difficult and lonely her life was to

become. Prince Charles, spent his time on the royal yacht Britannia swimming, sailing, writing letters and reading a study of the Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung.

"Diana dashes about chat-

ting up all the sailors and the

cooks in the galley etc. while I remain hermit-like on the veranda deck." Prince Charles noted in his diary. The book's author writes that Princess Diana was bemused by her husband's lack of romance and suffered a "canker of jealousy" about

bis former affair with Camilla Parker Bowles. "So far from being the focus of her husband's attention, he seemed to go out of his way to avoid the moments of intimacy with her that she craved," said the book, portions of which have been serialised in the Sunday

Within months, Princess Diana was breaking down in tears ahead of public engagements and was spending hours with the prince's advisers complaining about her husband and her new "job".

"During bouts of unhappiness, the princess would sit hunched on a chair, her head on her knees, quite inconsolable," the book says. Her mood swings became more violent and unpredictable once she drove off alone into

the night in great distress. Mr. Dimbleby's description of Princess Diana in the months before the birth of her son, Prince William, in June 1982 is littered with phrases like "self-pity... extraordinarily self-absorbed...

volatile." Her mood did not improve after his birth. She showed the first signs of the eating disorder, bulimia, and attempted suicide on several occasions. According to Mr. Dimbleby, Prince Charles tried his best to soothe his

"Burdened by the workload of his own official life. lacking the emotional support at home to which, in his romantic fashion, he had for so long aspired, and drained by the persistence of his wife's reproaches, he did sometimes rebuff her," he writes.

In late 1982, Prince Charles arranged for Princess Diana to see a psychiatrist. But Princess Diana remained convinced Prince Charles was conspiring against her and forced him to drop many

friends. "Apparently in the hope of securing his wife's peace of mind, the prince was even known to have surrendered his labrador, Harvey, at the princess's insistence, but for no reason that anyone could

fathom," the book says. Within five years, the marriage had collapsed even if formal separation did not come until 1992. And, according to Mr. Dimbleby's account, it was very largely Princess Diana's fault.

"Whatever clinical or

psychiatric label was

appropriate to the princess's distress, its effect on her marriage to the prince could hardly be in doubt," Mr. Dimbleby says. Prince Charles resumed his relationship with Mrs. Parker Bowles in 1986. The book does not, as

stated in media reports based on the extracts, claim Prince Charles never loved Princess Diana. But it indicates Prince Charles was not exactly besotted by his young bride.

"The princess was no less a victim, trapped in a marriage drained of life by the absence of love," it says.

Violent crime surges or U.S. streets - report

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On edge of anarchy

THE BREAKDOWN of the efforts to bridge the gap between the government in Algeria and the forces loyal to the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) could be a prelude to a civil war in the country. More than 10,000 Algerians have already been killed in the civil strife that ensued after the abrupt ending of the democratic process in early 1992. Algerian leader Liamine Zeroual is on the verge of announcing the failure of his attempts to engage the "FIS" in a meaningful dialogue predicated on the FIS's denunciation of violence. This much the Islamist forces were not prepared to do short of receiving ironclad assurances that they would be allowed to reap the results of the parliamentary elections in January of 1992. What adds credence to the prospects of gloom and doom in the North African Arab country is the sudden promotion of Algerian strongman General Mohammad Amari to the rank of full general as a prelude to his assumption of the minister of defence post. Gen. Amari is reputed to be a hardliner and was behind the decision to abort the 1992 elections when the FIS was poised to win them. It must be said in retrospect, however, that the FIS did not play its cards well. The demand that its leaders accept to renounce terrorism should have been accepted as a gesture of goodwill and tolerance. By rejecting this request outright, the FIS leadership under Abbas Madani simply played into the hands of Algerian hardliners who wanted nothing more than ending the efforts of President Zeroual to talk business with the Islamists.

The FIS and other opposition groups will be well-advised to put more faith in a peaceful dialogue with the central government. This is the only route to encourage moderation within the government of President Zeroual. There is nothing more damaging to the cause of the peace effort in Algeria than to have the president resign as a reaction to the failure of his efforts to settle the situation in a peaceful and reasonable way. Likewise, the government should in turn promote confidence in its bid to find a modus vivendi with the opposition factions. To begin with, the government must not only speak with one tongue but also refrain from sending conflicting signals to the other side. As long as Zeroual and Amari speak two different languages to the FIS and sing two different tunes on the prospects of peaceful negotiations with it there can be no solid foundation for pursuing this goal.

At the same time, the Arab World cannot just sit idle and watch Algeria fall into a state of anarchy. This is the time for genuine Arab and indeed international efforts to defuse the conflict by advancing active mediation efforts. The alternative is simply too costly not only to Algerians but to the entire region.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

COMMENTING on the Middle East and North Africa economic conference in Casablanca, a columnist in Al Dustour Tuesday said that the delegations which presented their cases had great hopes that the meeting would come up with definite ideas to helping their countries to achieve the development. Mohammad Kawash said that this large gathering of politicians and economists as well as business people from 60 nations has the potential to help countries in the Middle East and North Africa to attain their objectives, provided good intentions and strong will exist. The poor Arab states taking part in the meeting have expressed hope that the conference would usher in a "Marshal Plan" for the region to end its poverty and help its people to attain a better standard of living, said the writer. We do not want to see this conference and aspirations for economic help going up in thin air and vanishing with the conclusion of the conference, and we do not wish to see our dreams reflected only on paper, said the writer. What we want, he said, is practical steps that would lead to a revival of the national economies of the participating poor nations, which also earn for just peace and security, he said. The writer said that the reconstruction of the region and the strengthening of its economy probably require one quarter of the total funds spent on the Gulf war and the industrialised nations, said the writer, are duty bound to come up with the larger part of these funds if they are really concerned with stability, security and peace in our region.

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A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily criticised the way teachers are selected for their jobs in Jordan, saying that the Ministry of Education never considers the type of personality it presents to the students. Ahmad Arafat said that much of the education process depends on the teacher and his or her ability to impart knowledge and attract the interest of students. In most cases, he said, teachers are given their jobs if they hold a university degree but seldom does the ministry examine the teachers' personalities and their real culture and their eligibility and fitness to serve as good examples for the young generation. Indeed, Arab states, which send delegations to conclude contracts with teachers from Jordan to teach students in their schook, interview the candidates in order to sound out their real qualifications apart from the degrees they hold, noted the writer. Furthermore, he said, the line of people awaiting appointment as teachers is getting longer year after year, with the result that the waiting people tend to be of the knowledge they had obtained in or

The treaty: Its significance for Jordan and the Arabs

By Cecil Hourani

The signature of a Treaty of Peace between Jordan and Israel marks the end of one era in the history of the Near East in the 20th century, and the beginning of a new one.

The era which has ended began with two documents: The Sykes-Picot Agreements of 1915 which delineated the areas of the Ottoman provinces in the Near East between British and French zones of influence; and the Balfour Declaration in 1917 which engaged the British government in the establishment of a "Jewish National Home" in Palestine.

The second document radically altered the way in which the British and French zones of influence were finally defined. The promoters of the Jewish National Home were able to influence successive British governments to enlarge their area of interest to include the whole of Palestine and trans-Jordan, and limit the French area to Syria and Lebanon.

The inclusion of both the western and eastern sides of the River Jordan in the territories placed by the League of Nations under British mandate posed a problem for the British government: On the one hand they had acquiesced in the establishment in trans-Jordan of an Arab government under Abdullah Ibn Hussein, and on the other hand they were under constant pressure from the Zionist movement to permit Jewish land purchases and settlement on both sides of the Jordan.

This problem was solved by the first British High Commissioner in Palestine who effectively separated trans-Jordan from the area in which the British had undertaken to create the Jewish National Home. It was thus the achievement of King Abdullah to limit the scope of the Balfour Declaration to Palestine, although the Zionist movement represented by the Jewish Agency continued to consider that trans-Jordan was part of territory which had been "promised" them by the Balfour Declaration, the terms of which had been included in the League of Nations mandate to Great Britian.

The Zionist movement accepted reluctantly the United Nations decision in 1947 to partition Palestine between an. Arab and a Jewish state with economic union because it limited the area of the Jewish state. The refusal of the Palestinians and the neighbouring Arab states to accept the partition, and the wars of 1948/9 and 1967 enabled the Jewish state to enlarge the areas under its control to include the entire territory of mandatory Palestine.

The continuing failure of the international community to impose definitive frontiers on the state of Israel, and the de facto frontiers between Israel, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon established by the Rhodes armistice agreements, encouraged the growth inside Israel of an opinion favourable to the retention of the whole of the territory of mandatory Palestine on the ground that the Arab state envisaged by the U.N. partition plan now existed in Jordan. The slogan

"Jordan is Palestine" encapsulated this idea. The Jordanian-Israeli Peace Treaty puts an end once and for all to the possibility that a future Israeli government might revive this claim, or perhaps encourage or promote the transfer of further Palestinian populations from the

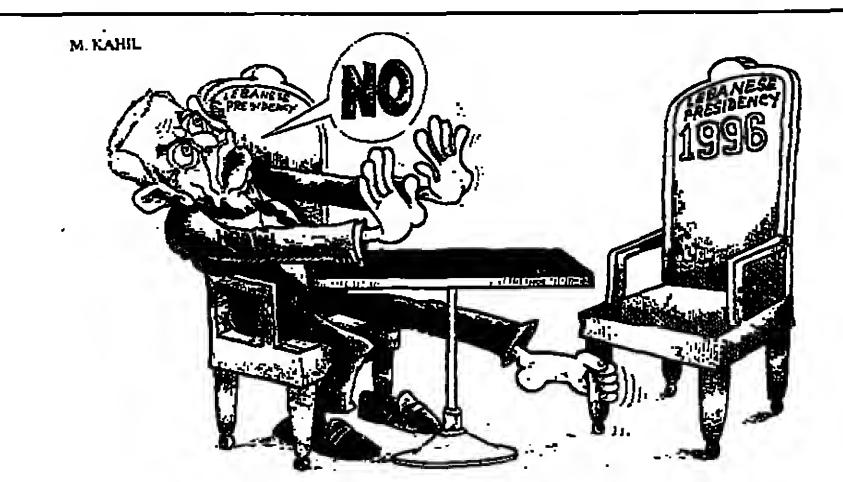
occupied territories into Jordan. Apart from the material and moral benefits which hopefully the treaty will bring to the people on both sides of the River Jordan, it serves the Arab cause in two important

— In the first place, it makes a final definition of Israel's longest frontier, and precludes any possibly expansion across the River Jordan. The security of Jordan, and of the countries adjacent to it, is thereby placed under the rule of international law governing the relations of sovereign states?

- In the second place, the treaty serves the Palestinian cause by eliminating the possibility of the "Jordan is Palestine" syndrome, thereby placing on Israel the unambiguous responsibility of helping to bring into existence the Arab state in Palestine, without which its own legitimacy as the creation of the international community remains in

suspense. These two positive merits of the Jordanian-Israel Treaty far outweigh the negative criticisms emanating from some quarters which have either failed or not wished to understand its true significance.

The writer is a prominent Arab political scientist based in London. He contributed the above article to the Jordan



The environmental dimension of peace

By Dr. Maher Fathi Abu Taleb

WITH the dawn of a new peace between Jordan and Israel and the promise of billions of dollars of development projects, there comes a renewed responsibility and commitment to our environment. When confronted with the issues of development versus the environment, the usualquestions come to mind: How will development projects affect our environment? Will expansion of industrial sites impact on our cultural heritage? Will protection of the environment be taken into consideration? Though seemingly complicated, these and many other similar questions and concerns have a simple answer. But before delving quickly into the solution. I would like to discuss the apparent dichotomy between development and the environment. Many people believe that

one cannot have development projects that cater to a society's needs without necessarily destroying the environment. As examples, these people cite the depletion of the ozone layer, the continued destruction of the Amazonian rainforests. the overfishing of Southeast Asian and Canadian fisheries, or the damage to wetlands such as the Azraq Oasis.

But all these environmental problems, and so many others, have, as their root cause, the inadequacy of environmental protection to begin with. So, in addressing ozone deple-

tion, rainforest destruction, fisheries depletion and habitat degradation, one invariably finds that the optimal economic solutions are always in harmony with environmental protection. Industries are moving away from producing chemicals that are harmful to the atmosphere and finding it profitable to do so. Rainforests in some areas of the world are slowly being replenished for their continued timber value and for potential profits from ecotourism. Halting random and accelerated fishing patterms and slowly moving to steady state consumption of fisheries is far more beneficial for everyone. And the almost irreversible destruction of the Azrag Oasis in Jordan, a wetland with international significance. has been addressed through better manage-

Most, if not all, international donor organisations have recognised the need to perform environmental impact assessment (EIA) along with project feasibility and planning. An EIA for a development project permits us to view the potential environmental damage and any environmental enhancements. The, enhancements can be further strengthened and/ or environmental damage mitigated through acceptable measures. The ELA process also allows for the

ment of the water resources

of the area and through

new development projects

that ease the pressure off

inclusion of alternatives within the specific project in question. The final feasibility or plan thus produces a project with minimal negative environmental impact with potentially less costly capital expenditures.

So, by utilising EIA guidelines, one can determine in a professional way the adequacy of a project. But how about these guidelines? Where do they come from? And whose purpose do they serve?

Over the past decade, many international donor organisations have developed their own environmental assessment guidelines based on previous research and experience in developed countries. These guidelines are used to evaluate projects for adequacy by taking into account the issues that donor organisations feel are important. Specific country guidelines are usually not available.

Let us now return to our earlier questions. It seems apparent that in the context of Jordan, the availability of EIA guidelines and the acceptance of EIA as a project planning and development tool would essentially impart confidence to all of us that projects have no detrimental environmental effects. But the problem is that Jordan has thus far not passed a comprehensive environmental law and thus does not have an agency that can "check" the EIAs for accuracy and comprehen-

siveness.

The fear is that environmental regulations would stunt investment and endanger growth. But, if Jordan had its own set of environmental laws, legislation, and EIA guidelines governing all aspects of development, the reverse would be true. Knowing just what rules and regulations are in existence, and what monitoring and enforcement mechanisms are used, would necessarily impart confidence to investors in an otherwise uncertain investment climate. Thus, investment would be expected to increase.

vironmental protection are becoming synonymous all over the world, because the environmental dimension is currently considered early in project planning. Thus, the fear that development will cause environmental damage cannot be technically justified. However, the lack of environmental management policies, legislation, incentives, regulations and specific country guidelines in Jordan implies that the country may initially have to suffer environmentally because of development projects before it can ever hope to reverse any environmental damage, if such damage is reversible.

Development and en-

The writer is president of Environmental Resources Management Consultants of Amman. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

LETTERS

A content employee is a productive employee

To the Editor:

AFTER READING an article in a recent daily newspaper regarding Third World nations and the approach of the 21st century, my mind went into a roller coaster, trying conceive ideas of measures that a "Third World nation" can implement, to join the class, or to gain the title of "First World nation."

The first thing that came to mind was free enterprise, second was privatisation of many government services, (i.e. postal, sanitation, telephone etc.), in order to relief government of many unnecessary burdens. Third and perhaps most important, and must go hand in hand with the rest, is a minimum wage standard.

Free enterprise promotes competition, better products and improved services at competitive prices. Therefore the general public would gain considerably, by being able to compare products and deciding the fair price and the better deal. Manufacturers and suppliers then will have to consistently work harder to improve quality and reduce

Privatisation is essential for the numerous benefits gran also offer and create. First, it will reduce government burden. Many present government agencies can be timed over to the public in a relatively painless change over For example, privatising sanitation (garbage collection), a private contractor can be contracted by government to collect trash in the normal schedule and in a similar method, and keeping mostly the same employees, for a certain amount of compensation. Additionally, the contractor can offer additional services to those who wish to use them, for an additional price, such as door pick up or collection of excessive amounts such as construction and remodelling debris. That contractor can also ask customers to implement such programmes as trash separation for recycling and disposal ease, and offer discounts and incentives for those who participate, thus perhaps creating

Minimum wage standards will not only improve job satisfaction, but will also improve labour output. A satisfied and content employee is a productive employee. Higher wages mean less imported cheaper labour, which often translates to needing two or more to perform the job of one. Thus you will find that national unemployment will take a dive. Talented and educated people will find it better to stay home and work, instead of going to foreign countries to earn a living. All over the world, a worker that has decent living conditions, goes to work production minded, knowing that his job is the means of maintaining his living standards.

Implementing partial changes will hurt more than improve, you must go all the way to make it work. The world is quickly changing, moving like a speed train, and unless we purchase a ticket, we will find ourselves waiting at the

Nadim Al Jaouni,

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

Do Clinton's foreign policy successes help?

By Carol Giacomo

WASHINGTON — Even the good times don't come easy for Bill Clinton.

By most measures, the U.S. president is doing better in foreign policy than at any point in the White House and still there is much debate over the nature of those accomplishments.

Many supporters believe he has gained his footing as a world leader while the unrelenting critics continue to point up the weak spots in his foreign policy.

Mr. Clinton's quick response to Iraq's recent massing of troops on Kuwait's border won the widest praise. He deployed U.S. forces to the region and warned President Saddam Hussein any future Iraqi build-up would be met with

military action. But a new nuclear deal with North Korea and the

so far relatively peaceful intervention in Haiti are in some ways more complicated, more risky and more controversial.

"The contrast between the firm line Clinton has taken with Iraq's sabre-rattling and the 'let's make a deal' approach that followed with troublemakers in Haiti and North Korea is striking and troubling," wrote columnist Jim Hoagland.

Many analysts say Mr. Clinton's October decision on Iraq was relatively easy because the stage was set by former president George Bush in the 1991 Gulf war that ousted Iraq from Kuwait.

"In general, I think he has found his stride... although I never thought it (Clinton's foreign policy) was catastrophic," said Patrick Glynn of the American Enterprise Institute.

He said Iraq is key because Mr. Clinton "was able to use Saddam's challenge to establish his credibility as a tough guy and a decisive president responding to a crisis." But a U.S. official said he

thought the pivotal point was Mr. Clinton's September decision to send troops to Haiti which forced the regime to leave power peacefully. "Finally we're no longer spooked about using force as an element of diplomacy," he told Reuters. The positive turn comes

because of patience and hard work, he said. "We're more disciplined about stating our objectives, keeping our eye on the ball and not overreacting." Maybe so. Negotiations

to persuade Haiti's dictators to restore democratically elected President Jean Bertrand Aristide to power failed until Mr. Clinton threatened to invade - a decision at odds with his personal history and unpopular with the American

people. U.S. efforts to get Pyongyang to abandon its nuc-

lear programme were on a perilous course towards war last summer until former president Jimmy Carter

sparked new bilateral talks. But those achievements could yet disintegrate. Haiti is still a volatile test case for democracy. The North Korea accord required U.S. concessions and it could be years before it is known if Pyongyang will honour its commitments.

But North Korea's nuclear threat is arguably Mr. Clinton's most daunting international challenge and a deal that offers the serious prospect of Pyongyang giving up its nuclear arms programme peacefully is preferable to war.

Mr. Clinton, for political reasons if nothing else, had to stem the exodus of Haitian boat people to U.S. shores. Better to improve the situation in Haiti so the people will stay home.

He also gets high marks for Russia policy although some fear he concedes Mos-

cow a free hand in other

ex-Soviet states.

Frayed ties with China improved after Mr. Clinton last June scuttled a campaign promise to tie trade benefits to human rights and decided to look more broadly at the relationship.

Since questions are raised about even the most successful of these policies, some experts wonder if Mr. Clinton will ever recover from the early months of his presidency when Bosnia. which remains a blot, Haiti and Somalia cast the first serious doubts about his strength and conviction as a leader.

"I don't think the president has turned a corner. I don't think we're out of the woods with respect to errorproneness in this administration's foreign policy," said Adam Garfinkle of the Foreign Policy Research In-

stitute in Philadelphia, Mr. Glynn said: "If (former president Ronald) Reagan was the teflon president (to whom no blame stuck), then Clinton is the

velcro president. Everything he does wrong tends to stick."

A major question is whether the improved foreign policy fortunes have won a reprieve for Secretary of State Warren Christopher, whom many viewed as vulnerable to replace-

Aides say he insisted on a specific departure date for Haiti's dictators, defended chief negotiator on North Korea Robert Gallucci against internal detractors and helped win South Korea's agreement to the deal. But many experts find it hard to see what role Mr. Christopher plays except in the Middle East.

Nevertheless, as Richard Haas — former advisor to George Bush - said: "It is less likely that a president would change personnel if things are perceived to be going well... Any change would be interpreted as an admission that the emitted have a point."

Featur

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LETTERS

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Shimon Peres met here with his Qatari counterpart Sheikh Hamed Ben Jassem Al Thani to discuss joint projects on

Monday. Israeli project to import Oatari natural gas, officials

Meanwhile, hundreds of

men at the summit.

"To be frank, the boycon is on its way out. It is just a matter of officially announcing its end now," said the Qatari construction industry executive.

"I am sure there will be cooperation on a big scale between Israel and Arab

Rob Levin, from a U.S. investment company looking to bring Arab investors and Israeli companies together, said the conference should help to bring the boycott to an effective end.

send out a positive message to encourage private business," said Mr. Levin, president of Sierra Capital Man-

businessmen come to the conference in the hope of finding a foothold in the Arab market.

Din Propper, head of the metion of Israeli Econo-Organisations, said he had made contacts at all levels with businessmen from Morocco, Egypt and the

Mr. Christopher said Monday the United States hopes for a complete end to the Arab boycott of Israel at the next meeting of the Arab

specify whether Arab countries had given pledges to lift the boycott.

there will be a strong move to esd the boycott entirely,"

Egyptian weekly Arab coun-Casablanca.

on whether the Casabianca conference marked the end of the boycott, the king said: mains the resolution of the Arab League Council, It will disappear one day, but this conference has made it (the

French-language Egyptian weekly Al Ahram Hedbo. which appears Wednesday, and the international news.

in the Arab-Israeli peace process and that "the river never

Israel hopes for Gulf ties

efforts.

The two men discussed an

Israeli and Arab businessmen also met on the sidelines of the conference to discuss possible joint ventures and cooperation.

One Gulf executive said the boycott would not stand in the way of Arab business-

countries soon.

"Arab leaders will have to

Around 100 Israeli

Mr. Christopher did not

We hope that at the next meeting of the Arab League

Mr. Christopher said. Morocco's King Hassan: H said in an interview with an tries had effectively abandoned their economic

boycott of Israel by participating in the summit in Responding to a question "in fact, yes. There only re-

boycott) meaningless. He was speaking to the

network World Media. "There is no going back"

returns to its source," even

(Continued from page 12)

of the Middle East.

not yet come to terms with the Jewish state and oppose all efforts to end Israel's political and economic isolation in the region before a settle-

Both boycotted the Casab-

Tishrin, a leading governeditorial Tuesday of what it termed the dangers of allowing Israel to practise "economic hegemony on the Arabs' potentials and wealth."

to achieve its "aggressive goals" through an economic

the Jewish state," it noted.

"Jumping over the components of a just and comprehensive peace will never serve the Arab rights nor does it contribute to forcing Israel to withdraw from the occupied Arab lands," it added.

"This will constitute a gain for Israel, further complicate matters in the region and will give Israel a chance to avoid the components of the just and comprehensive peace," Tishrin said, adding that Israel has to commit itself to relinquishing occupied Arab territories in return for peace

The main Palestinian Islamic opposition group also criticised Arab leaders for attending the summit in Casablanca, accusing them of accepting Israeli domination of the region.

"The conference, publicly and frankly, crowns the Zionist entity as the sole master for the entire Arab region,' said a leaflet from the Islamic Resistance Movement

"Israel plans an economic breakthrough in the Arab markets," said the Hamas leaflet faxed to the Associated Press.

"The Arabs have made only false gains," it added, in reference to plans for region-

"The strong presence of Zionists at the meeting shows their desire to play a central role in the future Middle East _market, where Israel will sell off its products and secure the raw materials it needs, especially oil and gas, Hamas said.

Five killed in Algeria blast

(Continued from page 12)

no such elections in Algeria withut a real multi-party system, and there cannot be a multi-party system without the FIS," Mr. Haddam said.

The FIS was banned after serious violence began in February 1992, a month after the second round of the country's first free general election following independence, once it became clear the fundamentalist party was poised to sweep the polls. The par-

liament was scrapped. it remained to be seen whether Mr. Zerousi would hand over power in the event of a fundamentalist presidential victory. But his will to move up elections appeared to be a gesture of conciliation toward more-pragmatic fundamentalists as well as legal

opposition parties. Mr. Zeroual, who is also defence minister, still stressed his "determination" to pursue "the eradication of terrorism and violence ... our socurity forces headed by the national popular army are working towards that with self-sacrifice."

Mr. Zeroual made his announcement during his first broadcast speech to the

E it was the first time the Mr. cround's government had mentioned a presidential. election, though it has yet to announce any plans for par-

liamentary voting. French analysis questioned the elections would take. place and said the announcement would not stop growing

4 Molence French foreign minisdeclined immediate comment on President Zeroual's Syria on Tuesday lam-

though there may be events that block peacemaking

basted the summit in Moroeco, and warned that such forums paved the way for Israeli economic domination

Syria and Lebanon have

lanca meeting. ment daily, warned in an

Tishrin said Israel intended

"The economic boycott of Israel is a legitimate right so long as our lands are still under occupation ... any talk about economic cooperation in the light of the continued Israeli occupation will be absolutely in the interest of

"Holding the Casablanca conference at these delicate. circumstances of the Middle East peace process, poses a big penetration of the Arab consensus and a flagrant violation of the joint Arab work," said Tishirin.

with its neighbours.

Hamas.

al development.

pledge of elections. France, Algeria's former colonial ruler and biggest economic partner, had urged the army-dominated authorities to open a political dia-

Mr. Zeroual said that dialogue had failed after two top FIS leaders, Abbasi Madani and Ali Belhadj, transferred from jail to house arrest in September failed to call a

Exiled FIS spokesman called for intensified armed struggle, saying the election would never take place unless the FIS was legalised and multi-party democracy res-

French Algeria-watcher Benjamin Stora said Mr. Zeroual's address on the 40th anniversary of the start of the war of independence contained two important new

clements. "For the first time since January 1992, he mentioned the taboo word 'elections.' although the mere mention of a possible presidential poll solves noting in itself," Mr.

Stora said. "Secondly, his speech was a very harsh attack on the entire political class, not just on the FIS, showing that the army is fed up with being all alone in the front line."

"The question is not what kind of elections might take place in Algeria today. The real question is how to stop the violence. This won't stop the violence." Stora added.

Ghassan Salameh, an expert on the Arab World at France's National Scientific Research Centre (CNRS). said bloodshed was now so widespread that it was hard to imagine a national ballot.



Algeria's Islamists and army head for all-out war

By John Baggaley Reutes

NICOSIA -- In the narrow alleys of the old Casbah district of Algiers, word of a new call for a Muslim guerrilla offensive spreads rapidly from mouth to

mouth. In the Algiers regional military beadquarters in nearby Blida, soldiers of the army that defeated the French receive their orders: "Fight to the end, whatever the sacrifice."

And up on the hill of the capital, once called "Algiers the White" for its elegant, whitewashed buildings overlooking the Mediterranean, the man who struggled to drag Algeria from three years of slaughter appears to have given up.

"It looks grim for the future," one Western diplomat said at the weekend after hearing that President Liamine Zeroual had admitted his effort to find common ground with the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) had failed. "If it has failed, it's possi-

ble Zeroual might go," he The president was caught

in the middle.

Many diplomats believe he was too hampered by the hardline military men to make any realistic offers for peace with the Islamists whom officials blame for a conflict in which 10,000 to 20,000 people have been slain since January 1992. On Saturday night, the



Algerian scouts waving their national flag stage a march to call for national reconciliation (AFP photo)

presidency in a statement after months of talks with political parties, many effectively acting as surrogates for the FIS, and the transfer of the two top FIS leaders from jail to house arrest, said:

"In spite of all the efforts that (Zeroual) has made, the positions between the different parties and between the parties and the state, including the position of the banned party (the

FIS), remain far apart." More significantly for many, the president bluntly accused the two top men in the FIS, Abassi Madani and his fiery deputy Ali Belhadj, of encouraging "terrorism and ex-

tremism." He made the assessment after three meetings between his officials and the two men since Sept. 15 two days after they were moved from Blida jail and

three colleagues were freed.

"Abassi refused without hesitation (to condemn violence) adding that such a statement would be useless and would complicate the situation."

The statement said their intentions were clearly revealed in two letters "addressed by Ali Belhadi to terrorists from his current residence. These two letters... prove the manoeuvring attitude of the leaders of the banned party which continues to encourage terrorism and ex-

tremism. Algeria, with 26 million people a mere hour's flight away from southern Europe, had come under growing pressure from the United States and France,

> the FIS. France, in particular,

> among other Western

countries, to negotiate with

along with Spain, Germany and Italy, fear an influx of fleeing Algerians if the bloody conflict, that has sent thousands of foreigners fleeing, worsens.

Apparently as a quid pro quo for sympathetic treatment over foreign debt, which crippled Algeria despite oil and gas wealth, the army-backed authorities did negotiate.

But most diplomats believe it was too little, too late to salvage the wreckage caused by the January 1992 cancellation of a general election the thenlegal FIS looked certain to

"We've always been sceptical of dialogue succeeding because Zeroual could not go beyond what the people behind him, the army hardliners, would allow," said one European diplomat.

"It was the same for Madani. He did make some conciliatory noises recently but then in a less conciliatory statement later which he signed with four other Islamist leaders he seems to have been pulled back into

French intelligence sources say hundreds of people are now being killed each week and many diplomats believe it can only get worse.

They say the conflict is already as bad or worse than that which in 1962 ended 130 years of French rule, and for the Arab World won Algeria the acclaim of being the "country of a million martyrs."

Criminal trafficking in migrants on increase

By Wendy Lubetkin

GENEVA — Growing numbers of would-be immigrants, unable to find legal immigration channels, are turning to professional gangs of traffickers to smuggle them across borders, according to the International Organisation for

Migration (IOM). Globally, hundreds of thousands of migrants are estimated to be trafficked each year, "funneling of millions - perhaps billions - of dollars into the pockets of traffickers," says IOM Director General James Purcell

"In the process, migrants are victimised, orderly migration processes are undermined, and national and international laws and policies are snubbed," Mr. Purcell told participants at an October 26-28 IOM-sponsored conference on the trafficking

Migrants are trafficked in hundreds of ways, according to the IOM. They may pay to travel thousands of miles crammed into ships, be escorted on foot over land borders, or sealed into secret compartments in bases and

trucks. Trafficking is an illegal industry that is not only growing but diversifying. Some traffickers provide transportation while others specialise in "services" such as fraudulent documents. accommodations, or jobbrokering. The U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) believes the financial profit from the smuggling of human beings is almost equal to that of the

international narcotics trade. "The United States does not view alien trafficking as a. migrant labour issue or a displayed person issue," says John wright, director of fraud and anti-smuggling investiga-

tions at INS. "Our investigation into the trafficking of aliens into the United States has revealed that it is an extremely largescale criminal organisation with sophisticated schemes for moving people from one country to another," he said

in an interview.

bed their vessel "Golden Venture." But the "Venture" ran aground near Queens, New York in June 1993, one of the first major incidents to highlight the issue of large-scale illegal traffic in human cargo into the United States. A

gang of smugglers — or

"snake-heads" as they are

The potential profits were

obviously clear to the

Chinese smugglers who dub-

commonly known in China had crammed the ship's hull

with 300 passengers. Subsequent investigations revealed that the smugglers charged an average of \$30,000 a head for the passage, fees that could potentially have generated revenues in excess of \$9 million, Mr. Wright pointed out.

States has documented 14 cases of smuggling Chinese migrant workers by boat resulting in the entry of more than 2,300 illegal aliens into the United States. Mr. Wright said the United States and China are cooper-

ating in their efforts to break

the smuggling racket and pro-

Since 1991, the United

secute traffickers. The United States has successfully prosecuted 85 individuals in connection with the Chinese smuggling schemes, including ship captains, crews and others involved in organising the scheme, he noted.

President Bill Clinton's re-

cent crime bill doubled the

sentence for smuggling aliens

into the United States, making it punishable by a term of 10 years in prison, he added. China is probably the largest source country for trafficked migrants in the world, according to an IOM source paper for the meeting. Hundreds of thousands of trafficked Chinese migrants may be in transit at any one time, smuggled by highly organised gangs which have access to sophisticated tech-

sources and an international DCTWOTK. Competition among Chinese traffickers has had the effect that they will sometimes offer passage with no down payment, according to

nology, ample financial re-

the IOM paper. Arriving in the country of destination, some migrants are held bostage until they or their relatives pay off their debt, and others are forced into indentured servitude. criminal activity, drug dealing or prostitution in order to

IOM is urging countries to consider trafficking not just as a question of laws and boundaries but also of human People are sometimes hired to migrate illegally by

traffickers who offer unrealis-

tic accounts of life in another

pay the traffickers.

country or who entice them with false contracts, according to the IOM paper. Having arrived illegally in another country, they usually have no control over the working or living conditions offered to them.

USLA

To grow or not to grow, that is the question

By Daya Kishan Thussu

LONDON - Delegates attending the Ninth World Conference on Tobacco and Health in Paris in October had to tread a delicate line.

The conference, sponsored

by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in conjunction with a group of nongovernmental organisations, was to assess the costs of the world's health of the global tobacco industry. Tobacco is the developing

earner, though only in Zimbabwe and Malawi does it account for more than 2.2 per cent of foreign earnings. Although responsible for 3 million deaths a year through smoking-related diseases, tobacco also provides an eco-

nomic lifeline for some 18

world's eighth largest export

million workers worldwide, including 11 million growers. But the figures on tobacco do not add up. As even the World Bank has now realised, the trade has long-lasting social costs that outweigh

the economic benefits. Tobacco costs more in death and disease than it earns. A study in Egypt found that tobacco yields some \$365 million a year in taxes, export earnings and wages but costs the government around twice as much on the cost of treating smoking-related diseases and in imports of tobacco products. China Daily reported an estimate by the health authorities in Beijing that China generated \$4 billion in tobacco sales in 1989 but that treatment for smoking-

caused illness cost more than \$5 billion. Yet as smoking declines in the North, profits from the industry increasingly come from developing countries. In the last four decades. cigarette consumption in the South has grown by more than 30 per cent. And the South's consumption of tobacco is likely to soar now that satellite and cable television give advertisers entry into homes all round the

globe. Studies show that developing countries will soon top the fatality league. The South currently accounts for one in three smoking-related deaths, but the proportion is expected to increase to twothirds of the predicted 10 million deaths in the next 30 years. This at a time when spending on health is being slashed under World Bank and International Monetary Fund Structural Adjustment Programmes, now being followed by more than 70 de-

boom. Population growth forecasts can only benefit the tobacco companies. Every child to survive is a potential customer. The women's market is also full of potential. Accord-

ing to Judith Mackay, author

of The Fight Against Tobac-

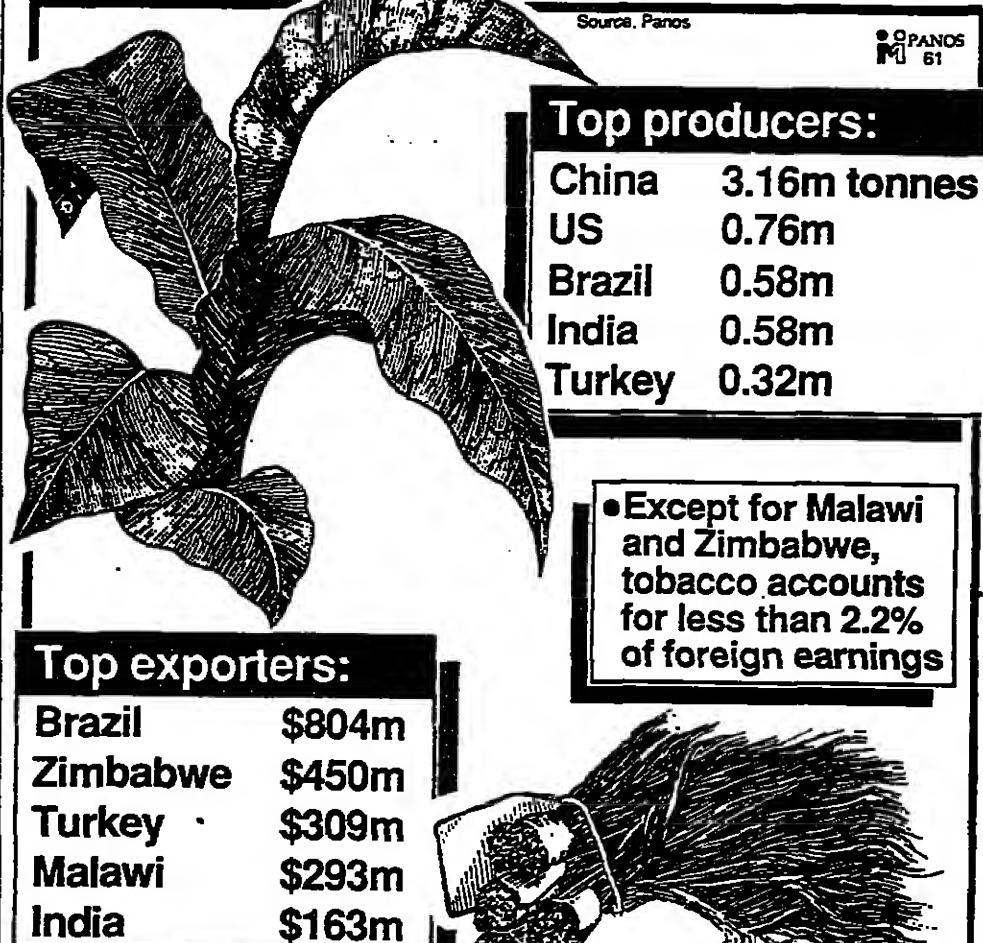
Children and young people

are the most vulnerable

targets of the advertising

veloping countries.

Tobacco traders



co in Developing Countries, the greatest gains for the tobacco companies are to be made in Africa, where the rate of smoking among women is the lowest of any

Smoking by women is

usually related to greater so-

cial freedom. The tobacco

continent

companies foster this link in their advertising by portraying women smokers as sleek, beautiful, professional, rich and independentminded. International trade intobacco is dominated by Northernbased transnational corporations (TNCs). TNCs as a whole will be the main be-

neficiaries of the liberalisa-

tion in world trade which the

recently concluded "Uruguay

Round" of trade talks is expected to usher in. Of the 104 countries that produce tobacco, 77 are in the developing world and yet 70 per cent of world production is controlled by six Northern TNCs: Rothmans, Philip Morris, R.J.R. Nabisco (formerly R.J. Reynolds), BAT, American Brands and

Japan Tobacco. Critics point out that tobacco production takes up land which could be used to grow food.

While farmers are growing more tobacco, world prices have dropped. In 1992, developing countries exported 15 per cent more tobacco than in 1991, but earned \$157

million less. This benefits the TNCs who control the trade from raw tobacco to finished cigarettes.

Prices have fallen 50% in real terms in last decade

Farmers who produce the tobacco are left at the bottom of the heap and see little of the earnings. A study in Uganda showed that farmers received only 30 per cent of the produce value while BAT and the government took 70 per cent.

As with other cash crops, tobacco demands intensive work, often by women and children. Children miss school and their education suffers. Women have to collect wood for the drying barns as well as helping with cultivation, leaving them less time for food cultivation and domestic chores.

The Bangladesh Tobacco Corporation, a BAT subsidiary, gave loans to farmers to change over from subsistence food production to tobacco. Though academics maintain that traditional crops like chilli or potato could be even more profitable, tobacco has the advantage of an international marketing system to

The other key issue is environmental degradation. Tobacco depletes soil nutrients faster than many other crops and requires regular applications of chemical fertiliser. Wood-burning kilns are often used to dry or "cure" tobacco leaves, which contributes to deforestation. The

tap into.

industry is committed in theory to replanting trees but this has not been very effec-

tive in practice. Some countries have tried to diversify and reduce the amount of land under tobacco. Zimbabwe, for instance, is encouraging cultivation of flowers and citrus fruits as alternative crops. But only the minority of wealthy, white tobacco planters have the capital to invest in this, not the 90,000 small-scale

African farmers. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation and the World Health Organisation have promised to help switch crops but little has been done till now.

Despite the growing success of anti-smoking curbs in the West - where smoking has fallen by half in the last 40 years — few effective measures have been taken to control the tobacco industry in developing countries. Legislation and taxation have made little impact.

Just 10 days after the Paris conference the tobacco industry is staging a conference in Vienna on the search for new markets. The industry should be feeling reassured that under the Uruguay Round trade accord, governments will be restricted in any sanctions they may want to apply against cigarette im-

ports.

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Saudis eye privatisation to meet budget problems

DUBAI (R) — Privatisation is suddenly a buzz word in financial and political cricles in Saudi Arabia as the king-"dom looks high and low for. ways out of its budget prob-ات ، lems.

Financial experts say it could take years to privatise "-'any of the wholly-owned -companies, like the national airline Saudia, and even then it would probably require

major reform. But Saudi Arabia has .scope to make money quickly and easily by selling off some ... of its shares in a panoply of .1: already publicly traded com-

- panies. "Selling off shares repre--- - sents a major (potential) source of revenue for the government," one economist

> Though Saudi Arabia is the world's biggest oil producer, its financial reserves have been squeezed by low oil prices and high spending, causing foreign officials like U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen to make rare public comments on Saudi financing difficulties.

In September King Fahd took up an offer by British Prime Minister John Major to provide advice on privau. dising.

One idea King Fahd mentioned specifically in June "-"was to privatise Saudia and * the telephone system.

Saudia, mentioned again in Cotober as a privatisation "-"possibility by his brother and second deputy prime minister Prince Sultan, Saudia's chairman, could be one of the "most difficult to do in a short

time, financial analysts say. They say the company is bloated with staff, does not pay anything to Saudi Aramco for its jet fuel, makes losses on its heavily subsidised domestic routes and often does not get paid by government officials for its tickets.

"Any privatisation of Saudia would have to take account of those structural problems that they have," a diplomat commented. "It's being run on essentially uneconomic grounds."

The government could guarantee dividends as it does to the partly privately held electricity companies through subsidies.

But this might not be seen as very attractive, especially in the light of the debt Saudia is expected to take on soon to buy \$6 billion-\$7 billion of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas planes.

Diplomats say that if it is reformed and run economically, it would be a worthwhile investment.

Another idea mentioned by financial experts would be to sell off parts of Saudia, such as its foreign routes or catering operations, but officials have not alluded to this possibility.

Selling off the government's telephone operations would face a brighter prospect — phone companies around the world rake in the money, especially on international services — and a government study last year recommended just that.

But the phone system is

undergoing a seven to eight-

tries Corp. While the government is hurting for cash, the private sector still has vast resources. much of it overseas, and selling off government shares would enable them to use this money at home.

This is a point King Fahd himself made in June: "A primary interest is to put Saudi capital to work in the

year \$4 billion expansion.

and will have to devote a

large chunk of its revenues

during that time to paying its

phone services, therefore,

would probably necessitate

either waiting until next cen-

dividends until that time.

has already valued these

And it is potentially lucra-

One banker said he figured

that at end-1993 the govern-

ment had 288 million shares

in 37 publicly quoted firms,

some of them blue-chip,

worth some 60 billion rivals

.Some of them like electric-

ity companies, because of the

very low rates they are

allowed to charge, are not

favourites, but others are

very profitable, like the 70

per cent government-owned

petrochemicals/steel con-

glomerate Saudi Basic Indus-

(\$16 billion).

Any privatisation of the

contractor, ATT Corp.

World Bank ready to double loans

Businessmen face bureaucratic maze in M.E.

CASABLANCA (Agencies) - More than 1,000 businessmen flushed with optimism in Casablanca will have to find the keys to a bureaucratic maze to turn hopes into successful enterprises in the Middle East and North

tury after the contract is implemented or else requiring ence's aims of sharply boostpotential shareholders to ing foreign investment in the forego most or all of their region, they will have to deal with what a Western diplo-It would be much easier, mat described as "the serpenthe financial experts point tine and elephantine out, to sell off government bureaucracies" running the shares in publicly traded administrations in most of the companies, since the market 18 states in the region.

A year ago the conference host, King Hassan of Morocco, ordered drastic reforms in the country's administration where he said bureaucratic red tape was scaring off even the most determined foreign

investors. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said in Casablanca there was a market of 300 million people in the region, which could become a powerful economic bloc like the European Union or the North American Free Trade Association (NAFTA).

What he did not say was that several million of them are civil servants, most of after an economic conference them poorly paid, who in the past have tended to have a stranglehold on economic affairs, which are generally

state-controlled. Most of the time suppliers. buyers and investors have To fulfil one of the confer- had to run an obstacle course to obtain official licences or authorisations, and fill in countless forms. As one publisher at the conference said, "printing official forms is a major industry in these

> For Westerners language and labyrinthine legislation can also be problems. Laws are often a heritage of the colonisers who had a mania for regulating almost everything. In Morocco the French even issued a decree to regulate the profession of snake charmer.

One top executive who asked not to be named said banking legislation in an Arab country he was keen to do business with "reads like a bad translation of Finnegans Wake," the arcane novel by James Joyce.

Derek Spencer, director of John Laing International Ltd. which has construction contracts in several states in the area, told Reuters the best way for foreign firms to clear all the hurdles was to have a local agent.

"You've got to have someone, a local national with connections, who knows the ropes and can hold your hand," he said.

But several business leaders at the Casablanca conference said things were changing with the emergence of a new generation of private entrepreneurs, often educated in Western business schools, who speak English and other

European languages fluently. They said a burgeoning bourgoisie of movers and shakers, impatient with state controls, was bringing pressure to bear on governments to make them relax their au-

thoritarian grip. Peter Sutherland, who master-minded the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) agreement signed in Morocco last April, said in an interview the way

and North Africa was open market trading and an end to the interventionist state. "Excessive bureaucracy is the enemy of trade."

World Bank Vice-President Caio Koch-Weser who also addressed the conference said in an interview, "the whole thrust of this conference must be to unleash the energies of the private

He told the delegates that "with effective country policies for realising the new paradigm of private-sector-led growth... we could more than double our lending in the region to about '\$3 billion a

Mr. Koch-Weser told AFP the bank was prepared to increase lending from \$1.5 billion to \$3 billion providing countries in the region adopted "much better social and economic policies."

The "real peace dividend" would not come through increased aid to the region, but through economic ties and new financial structures, Mr. Koch-Weser said.

"The World Bank can more than double its lending once new policies are in place. Water, environment, infrastructure - we stand ready to lend to projects," he added.

Governments should introduce "far-reaching reforms" to promote private sector growth.

"In the past this has been a region of conflict where governments have played a dominant role. To turn away from that and give the private sector a chance is what needs to be done," he said.

The World Bank would also increase its support by lending directly to regional projects and expand its technical assistance.

Mr. Koch-Weser said the Casablanca conference was a "milestone" on the way to economic cooperation in the Middle East and North Africa.

But he also cautioned that such a large gathering "can only be a first, modest step to results on the ground."

It would take time for most businessmen to "come down off the fence and make a

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Arab development funds fail to spur sustainable growth

ahead for the Middle East

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The Arab League's two main development funds have extended more than \$5 billion in loans and grants to the 22 member states but they have failed to spur sustainable growth and economic prob-

lems have persisted. Arab states have also received more than \$370 billion

in the past 25 years in other loans, credits and grants. Yet their economic have slowed down, their budgets and trade balance still suffer from deficits, and unemploy-

in some countries. The Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social De-

ment and inflation have risen

velopment (AFESD) are the two main development bodies in the Arab World. The AMF was set up in

Abu Dhabi in 1976 with an authorised capital of around \$2.43 billion, of which nearly \$1.3 billion are subscribed. The fund was created with

chronic balance of payments

deficits in most member states by providing soft loans and technical assistance.

But deficits have persisted mainly because of inadequate use of the loans, prompting the AMF to concentrate on technical aid and encouraging its members to carry out ecothe primary goal of tackling

nomic reforms. By the end of 1993, the

loans totalled around \$2.4 billion, most of which went to Iraq, Algeria, Jordan, Sudan, Yemen and Egypt.

The AMF's lending activity has been badly hit by growing arrears in Iraq. Sudan and Somalia. At the end of 1993. arrears totalled \$640 million — nearly half the capital, according to the fund

End of Australian boom times tipped by new study

an-SYDNEY (AFP) — Days af-- ter Australia's central bank -'∴ raised interest rates to steady יים surging economy, a leading reconomic forecaster has tip-

ped an end to the good times, with an economic downturn garagected in two years time. its seeds have already been sewn because Canberra has failed to induce sufficient business investment during Jr the current recovery cycle-BIS-Shrapnel said in its latest

long-term forecast. After two more prosperous years, with interest rates and inflation rising, a blowout in the current account deficit an would occur, with growth contracting from almost five per cent to less than one per

cent. Inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index would rise from 1.9 per cent --- one of the lowest in the industralised world — to 5.8

per cent in 1996. The study of economic conditions to 2009 also predicted Canberra would hand? down a "horror" budget next May and housing interest rates would rise from their

9.55 low to a peak of 12.5 per cent by June 1996.

"The current economic environment does not represent the start of a new golden age, with strong growth, low inflation and a contained current account deficit," the report said. "It simply represents another cycle.

"The seeds of the next downturn have already been sown by the failure of federal government to induce sufficient investment in the recovery stage of the business cycle," it pointed out.

While there was plenty of capacity now, there is insufficient capital stock to support further growth and supply bottlenecks would start to

emerge in 12-to-18 months. "Overall there has been no increase in the net capital stock over the last three. years," it said.

Two years of sound growth with strong increases in expenditure would feed through to growth in gross doffnestic product (GDP) of 4.6 per cent in the financial year to next June, falling to 3.2 per cent in 1995-96.

Increases in interest rates would lead to a downturn in

1996-97, with growth contracting to only 0.9 per cent and the danger of a more severe downturn if interest rates were kept too high for too long, it said. Official interest rates were

> raised a week ago by one percentage point to 6.5 per cent as a preemptive strike against inflation, the second rise since August. Economists, meanwhile,

have warned that Australia's fast-growing economy is set plunge further into the The deficit on the current

account, including payments on debt and investments, fell 14 per cent in September to a seasonally adjusted 1.809 billion Australian dollars (\$1.3 billion), the Australian Bureau of Statistics said

Tuesday. But analysts said the figure was in the upper range of market forecasts and likely to deteriorate as imports climbed during economic growth, interest payments on overseas debt rose and a severe drought cut farm ex-

They said the Australian government was under mounting pressure to speed up its plan to cut the budget deficit, thus boosting national savings and easing the need

for foreign loans. The government has forecast a budget deficit of 11.7 billion dollars in the financial year to June 1995, falling to 4.8 billion dollars in 1996-97. But Prime Minister Paul

Keating has said he is unwill-

ing to c_ 4ck on spending. recently referring to opposition MPs calling for a smaller budget deficit as "deficit Daleks were robots in a British television science-fiction series, Dr. Who, best-

known for their dogged persistence in attaining their goals and repeated calls to "exterminate" enemies. "There is not much news in today's figures but they do underline that the current account is increasingly be-

coming the central focus of

economic policy," said John

Larum, senior economist at

SBC Australia. "The prime minister has been drawing lines in the sand against the 'deficit daleks' but we think that will change because of the markets reaction on the current

Mr. Larum said interest rate hikes in the United States would increase the cost of overseas loans, business investment would boost imports and the drought would cut rural exports. "All these work in the

wrong direction and we cannot afford to continue running a current account deficit that is running at 4.5 per cent, approaching 5.0 per cent, of gross domestic pro-

duct," he said. The September figure compared to a seasonally adjusted deficit of 2.113 billion dollars in August and 1.178 billion dollars in September

The fall in the deficit was partly caused by a 421-million-dollar, or 48 per cent. drop in the merchandise trade deficit as exports fell one per cent.

Oil supply crunch seen for Asia due to rising energy demands

MANILA (AFP) — Asia's insatiable energy demands could put pressure on oil supply in the region, senior South East Asian petroleum executives said here although Brunei predicted that prices were likely to remain soft.

"Unless the growth in China and Vietnam is stagnated which is unlikely, the Singapore refineries will... be able to operate at high capaci-ties," Tan Boon Teik, chairman of the Singapore National Oil Co. told a regional meeting here.

Azizan Zainal Abidin, president of the Malaysian oil firm Petrolium Nasional Bhd. (Petronas), said the robust pace of economic growth in the region should cause energy demands to escalate.

"China and India will probably emerge as major consumers of energy, making the Asian region the most rapidly expanding market for petroleum products," Mr. Azizan said.

"While this development would result in pressure on supply in the Asia-Pacific, it would also evoke greater oil-producing countries lo-. cated outside the region," he

added.

The president of Indonesian state oil firm Pertamina. Faisal Abda'oe, said Jakarta, which is a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), saw a rise in domestic oil demand.

He said this would "reduce the volume of exportable surplus" under its 1.5 million

barrels a day (b/d) quota. Jakarta is implementing diversification to reduce the country's oil dependency in order to maintain constant

volume of exportable urplus, he added.

Mr. Tan said China's fistpaced growth "has created a attention to this region from voracious appetite for oil inports," leading to a 56 per ent increase to 7.12 million tonnes in the first six months to June.

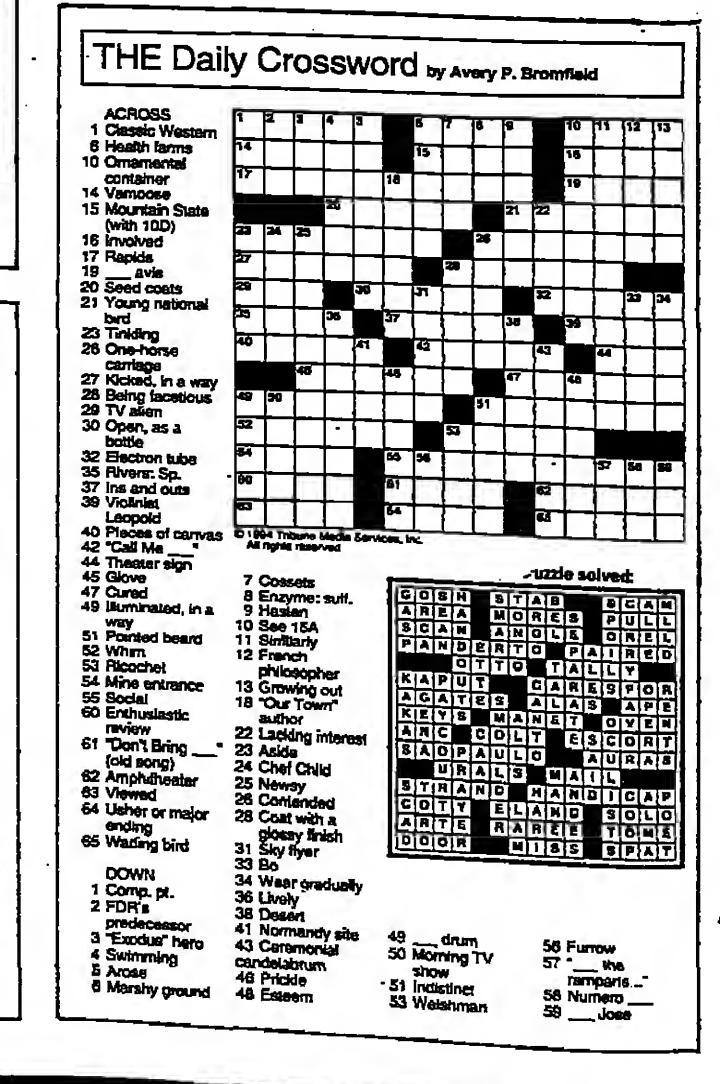
He said Beijing was trying to curtail imports by periodic bans and quota restrictions, coupled with attempts to boost domestic sales and con-

trol smuggling. Increases in refinery capacities in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand should cater to growth in domestic demand, but a planned 49 per cent hike in South Korea's refining capacity to 2.5 million b/d by 1996 is "a worrying fac-

tor," Mr. Tan said.

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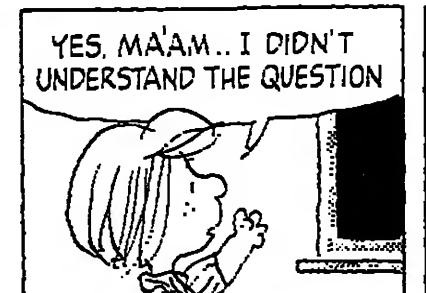
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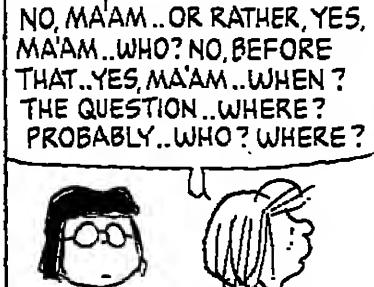


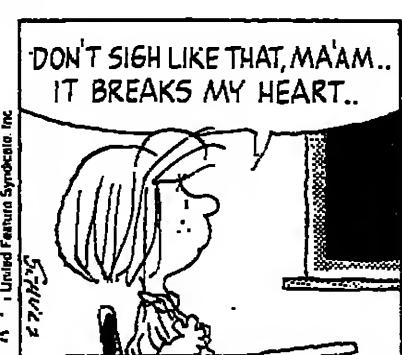
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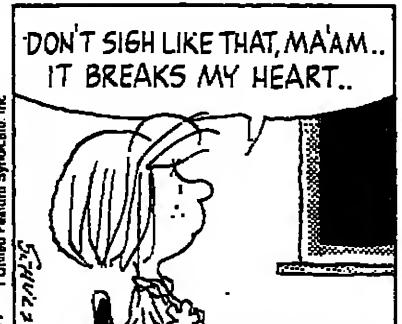
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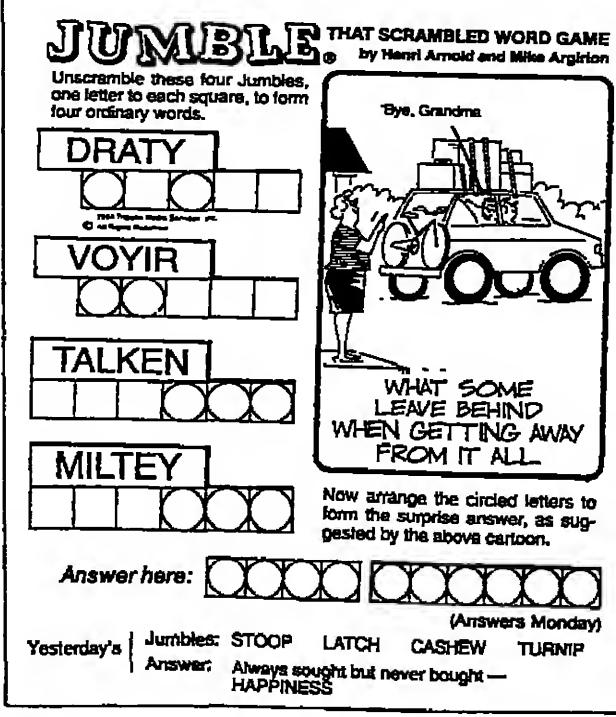












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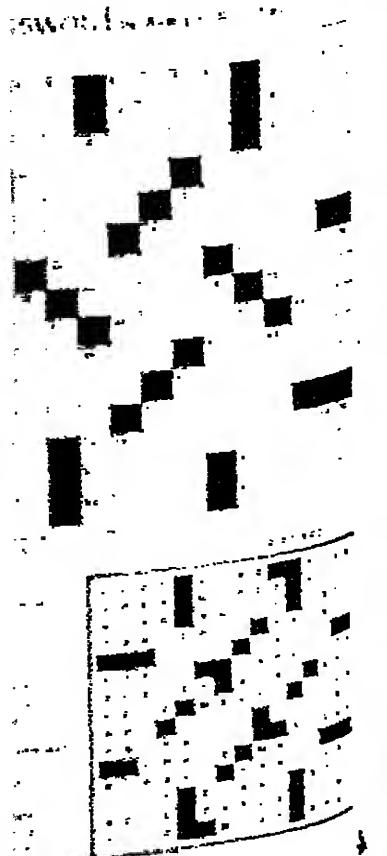
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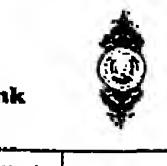
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U.S. Dollar in International Markets



| Cultons | New York Close Units 110:94 | Tekye Clese Due <u>1/11/94</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sterling Pound' | 7.6355 | 1.6390 |
| Drutsche Mark | 1.5034 | 1.4998 |
| Swiss Franc | 1.2565 | 1,2522 |
| French Franc | 5.1465 | 5.1395** |
| Јаранене Усп | 98.40 | 96.82 |
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| U.S. Dollar | 4,75 | - 5.37 | 5.68 | 6.00 |
| Sterling Pound | 5.37 | 5.87 | 0.31 | o.95 |
| Deutsche Mark | 3.68 | 4.93 | 3.06 | 5.50 |
| Swim Franc | 3.50 | 3.51 | 4.00 | 4.43 |
| French Franc | 5.31 | 5.40 | 5.65 | ā.12 |
| Japanese Yen | 2.12 | 2.51 | 2.37 | 2.02 |
| European Currency Unit | 5.53 | 5.87 | á.05 | 6.63 |

Central Sank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

| | Date: 1:11.199- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------|--|
| Сытевсу | Bid | Offer | |
| U.S. Dollar | 0.6590 | 0.6910 | |
| Sterling Pound | 1.1278 | 1.1334 | |
| Deutsche Mark | 0.4587 | 0.4610 | |
| Swiss Franc | 0.5494 | 0.5521 | |
| French Franc | 0.1341 | 2.1348 | |
| Japanese Yen* | 0.7107 | 0.7145 | |
| Dutch Guilder | 0.4003 | 0.4113 | |
| Swedish Kronz | 117011 | ***** | |
| Italian Lira* | 0.0449 | 0.3451 | |
| Belgian Franc | **** | ##=tai | |

| Other Carrencies | Date: 1/11:1994 | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------|--|--|
| Свитенсу | Bid | Offer | | |
| Bekraini Dinar | 1.8120 | 1.5240 | | |
| Lebancse Lira® | 0.040770 | 0.042270 | | |
| Saudi Riyal | 0.1843 | 0.1826 | | |
| Kuwaiti Dinar | 2.3200 | C.3750 | | |
| Qutari Riyat | 0.7850 | 0.1890 | | |
| Egyptian Pound | 6.2000 | 0.2200 | | |
| Omeni Riyai | 1.7700 | 1.7900 | | |
| UAE Dirhum | 2.1570 | 0.:850 | | |
| Greek Drachens | e.C215 | 3.5145 | | |
| Cypriot Found | 7,4370 | 1.5505 | | |

UAE banks thrive on trade, government loans

ABU DHABI (AFP) — United Arab Emirates (UAE) banks expect another record performance in 1994 as trade picks up and the government borrows more to offset a gap caused by weak oil prices, an

official report showed. The Gulf country's 47 banks made record earnings in 1993 due to a surge in credits to the government

and to trade and construction, the main investment sectors along with stocks in

the oil-rich region. Profits by the 19 national banks stood at around 1.48 billion dirhams (\$403 million) in 1993 while those by the 28 foreign units peaked at around 430 million dirhams (\$117 million).

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| ALAB BAIL | 40,340 | 183.50 | 183.000 | 163.50X | | | |
| JORDAN NATIONAL NAKK | 25,660 | 4.7:0 | 4,170 | 4.21 | | | |
| MIDDLE KAST INVESTMENT BANK. | 4,534 | 1.7:3 | 1.623 | 1.62 | | | |
| INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BASE | 2,475 | 2.950 | 2.930 | 2.95 | | | |
| THE HOUSING BANK | 9,450 | 3.250 | 2.230 | 3-75 | | | |
| JORDAN KUMAIT BANK | 1,613 | 2.770 | 2-940 | 2.74 | | | |
| JOHNAN GOLF BANK | 4,011 | 1.052 | 1.074 | 1.53 | | | |
| SOUDH ISTUKIC BYLK | 8,234 | 3.500 | 3-000 | 3.60 | | | |
| SCHOOL THAT THE LAND IN LINE HARK | 3.75 | 2.300 | - 700 | 0-83 | | | |
| MANY BUCK LOS TABLES | 4,481 | 1 775 | 354 | 2.20 | | | |
| PAILANELPHIA INVESTMENT DAME. | 4.5 | 2-420 | 2 550 | 2.55 | | | |
| TORDAY THE STREET TRANSPORT | 4 447 | 1-570 | 1 540 | 1 57 | | | |
| JUNEAU STROPE C POUR / STA | 19.124 | 1.316 | 1.570 | 1.53 | | | |
| ARAD INTERNATIONAL HOTELS | 5.200 | 5.300 | 5.200 | 5.20 | | | |
| JORGAN GULF BEAL ESTATE INVESTMENT | 5.256 | C.4ED | 0.970 | 0.94 | | | |
| JORDAN PREES FOUNDATION / ALRA'S | 110 | :1.560 | 11.500 | 11.50 | | | |
| DRITTED MIDDLE EAST 6 COMMODORE NOTELS | 24,135 | 7.390 | 2-390 | 7.35 | | | |
| ANAB INTEX. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION | 413 | 3.430 | 3_330 | 3.32 | | | |
| THE JORDAN CENERY FACTORIES | 32.245 | 2.723 | 2_710 | 2.73 | | | |
| JORDAN PETROLEUS REPINANT | 17.692 | 9.250 | 9.200 | 9.20 | | | |
| THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & ACRECULTURAL | 3.003 | 5.000 | 5.033 | 5.00 | | | |
| THE JORDAN HORSTED HILLS | 413 | 6.600 | 8.633 | 5.60 | | | |
| ARAB PERSONCEUTICAL PRINTACTURING | 3,748 | 6.620 | 6.600 | 5.60 | | | |
| RAFIA IMDOSTRIZE | 7,265 | 7.687 | 2.670 | 2.66 | | | |
| DAR AL DAWA DEFENDMENT & INVESTMENT | 8,800 | 14.253 | :6.000 | 16.00 | | | |
| SCART LANGITANIES & INCREASIONAL TRADE | 2.330 | DCC | 7-000 | 7.00 | | | |
| ARAS ALIMINIUM INDUSTRY | E, 100 | 6.853 | 4.750 | 6.75 | | | |
| arab prese converting & trading | 680 | 1.360 | 1.360 | 1.36 | | | |
| NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY | 2,125 | 4.300 | 4.250 | 4.25 | | | |
| RAPIA INDUSTRIES DAR AL DAMA DEPELOPMENT & INVESTMENT ARAB INVESTMENT & INCRNATIONAL TRADS ARAB ALIMINION INDUSTRY ARAB PAPER CONVESTING & TRADING NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRIES MATTORNAL SAME & NUMBER OF TRADING MATTORNAL SAME & NUMBER OF TRADING | 615 | 1.670 | 3.630 | 1.4 | | | |
| ENTLOUGH, CARLE 4 WIRE MANUFACTURING | 2,873 | 5.450 | 5.350 | 5.35 | | | |
| ARAB CENTER FOR FRANK, & CHERCOLLS | =,420 | 2.850 | 2.643 | 2.44 | | | |
| JORDAN ROCKHOOL SHOUSTRIES MATLOWAL CAMEE & WIRE HANDSPACTURING ARAB CENTER FOR FRANK. & CHERCOALS KANTHER INVESTMENT UNIVERSAL HOUSIN INDUSTRIES JORDAN INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES CO. | 505 | 2.033 | 2.030 | 2.07 | | | |
| SETAL SOCIAL SECRETARIES | 3,331 | 4 | 4.150 | 4.17 | | | |
| TORREST THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY AND ADDRESS | | | | 2_72 | | | |

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs 1.3518/28 1.4990/00 1.6804/14 1.2500/10 30.87/91 5.1321/71 1538.0/9.5 96.67/77 7.1425/25 6.5270/20 5.8600/50

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formation so far on the performance of banks and companies for this year," said Ziad Dabbas, share dealing director at the governmentcontrolled National Bank of

Abu Dhabi. "But optimism is dominating the market about such performance due to an economic upswing, especially in trade, construction and services," he added. Credits have remained the

main activities by banks in the UAE and other Gulf oil producing countries as there are no other major investment opportunities. Another key source of in-

come is their investment abroad.

Credits and loans by the UAE banks surged to 80.6 billion dirhams (\$21.9 billion) by the end of June from 67 billin dirhams (\$18.2 billion) by the end of 1992, according

to the central bank. Credits to trade increased to 26.9 billion dirhams (\$7.32

billion) from 22.8 billion dirhams (\$6.21 billion) during the same period. Credits to the construction

dirhams (\$3.84 billion) from 13.1 billion dirhams (\$3.56 billion). Loans to the government surged to 13.2 billion dirhams (\$3.59 billion) from 10.8 bil-

sector also rose to 14.1 billion

lion dirhams (\$2.94 billion). Financial sources attributed the increase in those loans to a government trend to borrow more to bridge a deficit in the budget and finance pressing development projects as the drop in oil prices created a cash shortage as is the case in Saudi Arabia,

er and exporter. Oil provides more than 90 per cent of the UAE's in-

the world's top crude produc-

come and weak crude prices have created a budget deficit since mid 1980s. The deficit stood at \$470 million in 1993

and was projected at \$380 million in 1994. "Initial results showed most banks in the UAE will make higher profits in 1994 due ot an upturn in trade, real estate, building and

other sectors," said Zuhair Kaswani, head of the Sharhan brokerage and real estate company. Official figures showed the

UAE's imports, which account for the bulk of trade credits, peaked at nearly 40 billion dirhams (\$10.89 billion) during the first half of 1994 and is expected to exceed 80 billion dirhams (\$21.8 billion) by the end of the year. The imports stood at around 72 billion dirhams (\$19.6 billion) in 1993.

Many UAE banks have

capital to face growing demand for credits following Central Bank curbs on lending. A central bank breakdown

been forced to raise their

showed the banks' investments in other sectors were negligible compared with

trade and construction. Credits to industry totalled 3.8 billion dirhams (\$1.03 billion) while those to farming stood at 193 million dirhams (\$52.5 million), water and electricity at 41 million dirhams (\$11.1 million) and transport and communication at 2.1 billion dirhams (\$572 million).

Domestic investments by the banks stood at only 1.22 billion dirhams (\$332 billion) compared with overseas investment of 8.1 billion dirhams (\$2.2 billion), excluding bank deposits.

Russian MMM chief tells supporters shares are invalid

MOSCOW (R) - The flamboyant head of Russia's MMM investment firm stunned his supporters Tuesday by telling them their shares were temporarily invalid in a move that seemed certain to shatter his reputation as a people's hero.

About 3,000 shareholders, many of whom had taken to the streets to support president Sergei Mavrodi during criminal proceedings, had massed at MMM's main Moscow offices following his triumph in parliamentary elections on Monday.

But the mood of expectation and elation swung abruptly to fury and bitterness as the crowd heard a statement from Mr. Mavrodi in which he said the validity of old shares would be suspended from Nov. 1 to Jan.

People exploded with anger, hissing and whistling in derision and throwing MMM share tickets into the air like confetti after the announcement which left them with no hope of trading in their secur-

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"From today, Mavrodi has lot confidence. He should have accepted old shares back at the nominal value but not abolish them," said metalworker Ivan Ivanov.

Mr. Mavrodi, 39, despite being under investigation on tax evasion charges, had become a cult figure among MMM shareholders by successfully portraying himself as the little man pitted against a bureaucratic state.

Thousands of people from all walks of life had staged street demonstrations and marches in his defence while he was in jail. But his announcement on

Tuesday seemed to have exploded his reputation as a martyr to the cause of free enterprise in the new Russia.

"Many people have mortgaged their cars and their flats to buy these shares and now these thieves have stolen all our money." said 70-yearold Olga Vladimirova.

Ms. Vladimirova and two

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other elderly women said they had taken part in a march to the prison where Mr. Mavrodi was being held to display their solidarity.

Mr. Mavrodi himself, who could not be reached Tuesday, may have won immunity from prosecution by his triumph in a parliamentary

by-election on Monday. MMM promised dividends of 3,000 per cent a year, and millions of individuals made fortunes before the bubble burst and payments stopped.

Critics said MMM was a classic pyramid scheme, using income from new investors to buy back shares from old investors at ever-rising prices. The game ended when investors stopped buying new shares and cash supplies dried up to buy old shares

In the statement read out by a company employee, Mr. Mavrodi said the validity of old shares had been temporarily suspended "because of their concentration in the hands of speculators and middiemen."

S. Korea's major industrial players see 30 per cent annual sales growth

SEOUL (AFP) - South Korea's major players in the electronics, auto and shipbuilding industries expect robust sales growth rates averaging around 30 per cent in 1994, with Samsung Electronics Co. topping out with a record performance for a single firm, business sources have said.

Samsung Electronics said it would be the first domestic manufacturer to break the 10 trillion won (\$12.5 billion) sales mark by year's end. "We will be the first to

reach around 11 trillion won in annual sales in 1994 thanks both to booming exports and domestic sales," Kim Jung-Hyun, a company spokesman said.

Mr. Kim said that, spurred by the high yen, Samsung Electronics had achieved sound results so far in the year, which should see sales of semiconductor and home appliances grow more than 30 per cent each from a year

Especially brisk were exports of semiconductors, its main exchange foreign earner, which posted an all-time high in the year and helped boost the export component of Samsung's total sales to 65 per cent from 55 per cent in

"Samsung will continue to dominate the world's semiconductor business with already started massproduction of 16-megabit dynamic random access memory (DRAM) chips," Mr. Kim told AFP in a telephone

interview. He added that Samsung was ready to vie with other rivals in terms of sales and production of 16 megabit DRAM chips, after dominating the four-megabit DRAM chip market, where South Korean makers including Samsung have earned huge

profits. Goldstar Co., a leading racer in Korea's home appliance market, projected its sales at \$6.63 billion for 1994, up 23 per cent from last year, while Hyundai Electronics Co. put its sales estimated at \$2.63 billion, a whopping 70 per cent growth.

In the automaking field, Hyundai Motor Co. is expected to reach \$10.63 billion in sales, a little worse-thanprojected 20 per cent increase, while Kia Motors would see a robust 31 per cent rise to post \$6.75 billion.

Hyundai Heavy Industries, the nation's largest shipyard, predicted a 40 per cent surge to post \$4.88 billion in 1994 results over a year earlier.

But 1994 was not such a good year for the South Ko-rean shipbuilding industry as a whole. It was knocked out of its hard-earned top slot by

In 1993 local shipbuilders won eight million tonnes worth of orders, taking the lion's share in the world market, followed by Japan, which received orders for 6.5 million tonnes or 31.7 per cent of the world total in the year, according to reports from the nation's Industrial Bank.

This year saw Japan leapfrog back into the top spot on lower bidding, but experts here predicted the Japanese attack would fizzle out and saw South Korean shipbuilders coming back from the latter half of next year.

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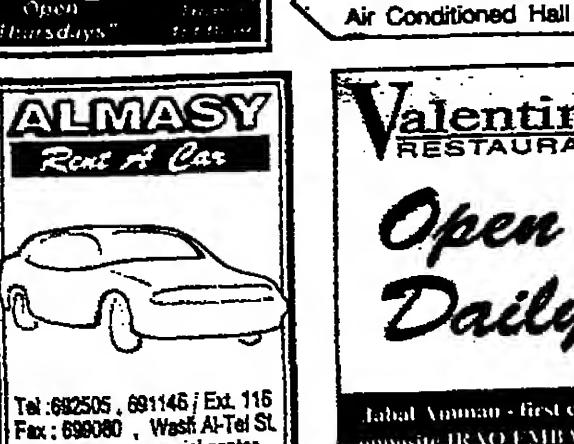
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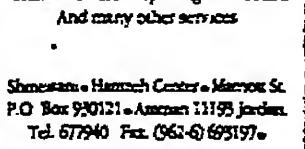
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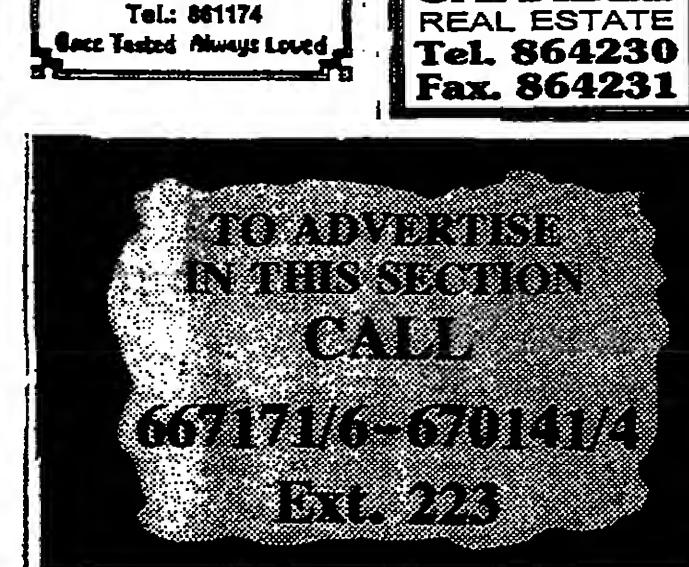


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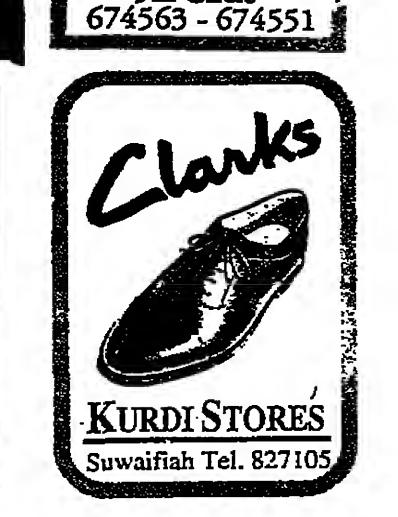
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Mixed fortunes for Davis Cup hopefuls

PARIS (AFP) — There were mixed fortunes for players hoping to win a place in next month's Davis Cup final when the \$2.25 million Paris - Indoor Open got underway in ____ the grass-walled Bercy Sta-... dium Tuesday.

Russians Alexander Vol--: kov and Andrei Chesnokov were both beaten in their ... first-round matches while Magnus Larsson showed that - he has put his disappointing summer behind him by scoring a straight-sets win.

Stubborn Australian Jason Stoltenberg saved two match points in a dramatic 18-point tie-break to upset Volkov and earn a second-round · clash against eighth-seeded United States Open champion Andre Agassi.

The 24-year-old from New . South Wales, who had never taken a set off Volkov in three previous encounters, clinched a 5-7, 6-4, 7-6 (10/8) victory in two and a half bours after trailing 6-7 and 7-8 in the tie-break.

.- Chesnokov's recent minirevival in form was slapped back by Zimbabwe's Byron Black. Black better known as a doubles player, raced home 6-1, 6-4 and now faces bigserving defending champion Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia for a place in the last sixteen.

By contrast, Swedish Davis Cup captain John-Anders Sjogren will be reassured by Larsson's form. The 6ft 3in, 24-year-old French Open semi-finalist, showed that he is still programmed in winning mode: by racing to a 7-5, 6-4 win over Reneberg in just

79 minutes. Larsson, who won only two matches in seven consecutive tournaments before triumphing at the Toulouse ATP - event earlier this month, now plays 15th-seeded Austrian - Thomas Muster.

In other matches, Frenchman Arnaud Boetsch threw



Germany's Boris Becker (left) and U.S. Andre Agassi warm up during a practice session on the eve of their first round

still managed to beat argu-

Peru 4-6, 6-3, 6-1. Yzaga, who took a warning in the first set after protesting a decision, was lucky to escape further punishment minutes later when he slammed a ball into the net in

Boetsch now plays Switzerland's big-serving 14th seed Marc Rosset.

Another French winners were Cedric Pioline and 21-

year-old wild-card entry Lionel Roux. Pioline, desperately trying to halt his slide after crashing

away a 4-1 first set lead but out of the top-ten to 43rd in the current rankings, played mentative Jaime Yzage of a faultless match against Australian Patrick Rafter, and a 6-4, 6-2 win gave him a showdown with tenth seeded Paris-based South African

> Roux outplayed Karsten Braasch 6-2, 7-5 and now faces another German player in the next round — third seed Michael Stich.

Wayne Ferreira.

Petr Korda of the Czech Republic and Renzo Furlan of Italy won their matches but in different styles. Korda, a former French

Open finalist, dropped only

four games against dis-

Stoltenberg of Australia

match at the Paris-Bercy Open. Agassi will face Jason

appointing Aaron Krickstein of the United States while Furlan needed a 6-7 (5/7), 7-6 (7/4), 6-4 scoreline to put out American Chuck Adams. Two home players were

Olivier Delaitre crashed to Bernd Karbacher of Germany and Thierry Guardialoa was beaten by Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands. The seeded players all have first-round byes.

Boris Becker, who has risen to third in the world rankings following his remarkable triumph at the Stockholm at the weekend, is a hot favourite to win the

event for a fourth time.

His victories in Sweden over the world's top-three players in as many days, qualified the three-times Wimbledon champion for the elite eight-man ATP World Championships finals in Frankfurt next month.

Becker opens his campaign in the 48-player tournament on Wednesday against either MaliVai Washington of the United States or Paul Haarhuis of the Netherlands. while world number-one and top-seed Pete Sampras, who is growing a beard on orders of his girlfriend, faces Eltingh in his first tournament match.

Spurs sack Ardiles

LONDON (AP) — Former Argentine World Cup star Osvaldo Ardiles was fired Tuesday's as manager of Tot-

Despite Saturday's 3-1 victory over West Ham, Tottenham owner Alan Sugar made the move because of a series of poor recent performances. They included elimination from the League Cup by Norts County, which places last in the division below yet beat mighty Spurs

Ardiles was summoned to Sugar's home Monday night and told the news.

The decision to let Ossie go has been one of the most difficult decisions I have ever had to make in my life," Sugar said Tuesday.

"Over the past few days I have struggled. A lot of soul searching and deep thought has been applied. The difficulty has been compounded by the fact that he is such a delightful person and a good

Ardiles spent some £8 million (\$12.8 million) to produce one of the most exciting strikeforces in the league by hiring world cup stars Juergen Klinsmann, Ilie Dumitrescu and Gheorghe Popescu.

But the team's defence. which badly needed strengthening, was repeatedly left exposed while Ardiles placed too much emphasis on attack.

After the loss to County. angry Spurs fans banged their fists on the team bus as it left the stadium, popular as a player at Spurs when he was hired after Argentina's World Cup triumph in 1978.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Record fleet enters Sydney-Hobart race

SYDNEY (R) — 'A record 430 boats have entered this year's 50th Sydney-to-Hobart ocean race, prompting race organisers to announce Tuesday that stringent safety measures will be introduced for the event which starts December 26. The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA), the race organiser, said that the potential starting fleet could exceed the largest ever to set sail in a long ocean race. Race officials said they believe the largest ever blue water classic fleet was some 350 boats in an Admiral's Cup fastnet race. The largest previous Sydney-to-Hobart fleet of 179 vessels was in 1985.

Lineker may have played last game

TOKYO (R) — Gary Lineker's playing career may have been ended by a chest injury which could keep him out until his planned retirement at the end of the Japanese season. Doctors at Lineker's Nagoya Grampus Eight Club were reported as saying the former England striker needs there to four weeks to recover — and the season ends in less than three weeks. Lineker was elbowed in the chest in a game Saturday.

Sarajevo team meet the Pope

ROME (AFP) — Sarajevo's football team will be received by Pope John II Wednesday, according to papal authorities Monday. The Bosnian team will then play Italian league leaders Parma November 9.

Saunders and Hughes to boost Wales

CARDIFF (AFP) - Dean Saunders and Mark Hughes return to Wales' squad for their European Nations Cup qualifying match against Georgia. Both have been included. in the 18-man squad for the November 16 fixture in Tbilisi, though suspended Aston Villa striker Saunders missed the 3-2 setback in Moldova, as did injured Manchester United forward Hughes. However Hughes (groin) and Old Trafford team-mate Ryan Giggs (ankle) still have injury doubts, despite coach Mike Smith's faith in their recovery. Sheffield United's Nathan Blake, Portsmouth defender Kit Symons and Derby midfielder Mark Pembridge have all been dropped. But Newcastle's Alan Neilson has been brought into the squad, named on Monday.

United fans in trouble

BARCELONA (AFP) — Seventeen Manchester United fans were arrested Monday night following street fights, as police spokesman said. Four fans who allegedly started a fight by overturning some parked motorbikes were arrested after they leapt into a taxi to escape. Another 13 detained after fights in the Ramblas tourist site. Only 4,700 of 7,000 United fans, who had travelled for the English club's European Champions' League match with Barcelona Wednesday, had tickets, the police said. Police have mobilised 720 officers and 200 security guards for a match classed as high risk by the European Football Union.

Australian wins first leg of BOC

CHARLESTON (AP) — Australian David Adams made up a (723-kilometre) gap to finish first in the Class II category in the first leg of the BOC round-the-world yacht race. Adams crossed the line at Cape Town, South Africa, to win his category with a time of 42 days, nine hours, 50 minutes and 45 seconds. The mark broke the 1990-91 record of Yves Dupasquire by more than two days. Italian Giovanni Soldini was second in Class II — for yachts (12-to-15 metres) — finishing 15 hours behind Adams. Isabelle Autissier of France became the first woman to win a leg of the BOC challenge when she crossed the finish line at Cape Town to capture the Class I (15-to-18 metre, yachts) category and overall victory in the first leg of the singlehanded around-the-world race.

Referee sues after being hit following decision

VESOUL, France (AFP) — A referee in a regional football league match has brought legal proceedings after being injured by players and fans following an unpopular decision, police said Monday. Stepjan Bartkowiak was injured on his calf and lips after being hit following his dismissal of two players from visitors Turcs de Luxeuil in the 40th minute. Tures were playing Fougerolles. The same source added police had opened an inquiry. The regional league said it will also investigate and deal with the matter before the law courts.

Bell to celebrate 25th jubilee

YAOUNDE (AFP) — Former Cameroon international goalkeeper Joseph Antoine Bell will celebrate 25 years in football with a "a large party" of football. Bell, who nearly brought about a strike at this summer's World Cup because of large sums of money owed to players, hopes to organise friendly matches. And he told AFP he wanted to examine "technical possibilities for national television to cover matches of this jubilee for the European public." Bell said Paris Saint Germain keeper Bernard Lama and AC Milan's Cameroon-born Dutch international Ruud Guilit would be at the party. "I am organising this party in Cameroon to allow the Cameroon public to see talented players they have only seen on television."

Venables remains Reynolds England coach

LONDON (R) — Terry Venables retains the full support of England's soccer establishment and will remain national coach, the Football Association (F.A.) said Tuesday. Venables Monday denied allegations in a BBC television

programme that he had unlawfully obtained £436,000 (\$707,000) following the 1991 takeover of Tottenham

Graham Kelly, F.A. chief executive, said the allegations about Venables were unproven and did not affect his ability to coach the national team.

"The programme presented no evidence to cast doubt on his qualifications to be the England football coach, or on his capacity to do the job," Kelly told a news conference. The F.A. appointed Venables to replace the sacked Graham Taylor in January, after the BBC's Panorama had first queried financial aspects of Venables's takeover of Tottenham.

Nothing had happened to change the F.A.'s opinion that Venables, once manager of Spain's Barcelona, was the person best suited to coach the national team, Kelly said. "Crucially, it is our belief he retains the overwhelming backing of his fellow professionals to fulfil the task he's

undertaken," Kelly said. "He will continue to do so with the F.A.'s full backing." Venables issued a writ against Panorama for its first programme. But he has not taken legal action for Monday's allegations which he claimed amounted to victimisation. "My position remains as before — that I have done nothing dishonest, I have nothing to fear from this

programme and that it is just another step in a bitter campaign to discredit me," Venables said. Panorama alleged Venables obtained a one million pound (\$1.6 million) loan from finance company Landhurst leasing for the takeover by pledging assets of four pubs he

Rio embarrassed in Brazilian championship

Today, Flamengo, with a

record of 1 win, 2 ties and 4

losses, is tied with modest

Parana for last place among

The team lost 1-0 to Bahia.

just 48 hours after a 3-0 loss

to Sao Paulo. A tiny but

angry crowd of 1,896 at Mar-

cana stadium — 1 per cent of

capacity - chanted

"Flamengo is tradition, not

tor made the standard crisis-

control move — they fired the coach. Carlinhos was re-

placed by Edinho, a former

Other Rio clubs aren't

Botafogo has the league's

little else. The team is sixth

among eight teams in Group

F, just ahead of Flamengo.

champion, probably has the

best chance of any Rio Club.

All-stars William, Bruno and

Sebastiao Lazaroni hasn't

done much with it. Vasco is

with a team of youngsters, is

even worse, the 1984 national

champion is in last place in

Group E.

in sixth place in Group E.

But so far, veteran coach

Fluminense, struggling

Vasco, a two-time national

After the game, club direc-

humiliation.'

national team.

eight teams in Group F.

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — For decades. Rio has taken pride in its soccer teams whose technical excellence somehow seemed to be their birthright. Until now.

did not own.

Rio clubs have been an embarrassment in this year's first-division championship. Worse, the city that gave Brazil "futebol" has seen the banner of soccer supremacy pass to archrival Sao Paulo. Rio's "Big four" — Flamengo, Fluminense, Botafogo and Vasco — languish at or near the bottom

the standings as the tournaall-star fullback with Flu-Last weekend, the Rio teams hit bottom. All four doing much better. teams lost their games — and high scorer — centerforward Tulio, with 13 goals - and

Flamengo managed to drop two in a 48-hour span. "The shame of Rio continues," read a headline

Monday in the Rio daily O The tailspin is a result of

snowballing debts, mismanagement, bad trades and plain incompetitence. The fall perhaps has been

hardest for Flamengo, Brazīl's most popular team and a five-time national champion Brazil's World Cup champion team was a reunion of Flamengo veterans, among them Jorginho, Leonardo, Aldair, Bebeto and Zinho.

loses fight for \$27.4m WASHINGTON (AFP) -

Athletics star Butch Reynolds lost his Supreme Court fight Monday to pocket \$27.4 million from the IAAF — the sports world ruling body — which banned him for allegedly taking It was a major victory for

the IAAF, who barred Reynolds from taking part in the last Olympics in Barcelona two years ago.

IAAF president Primo Nebiolo said the decision "takes on special significance for the entire Olympic movement and the sporting world in general."

The justices turned down Reynold's argument that a U.S. court had the authority to order the governing body of international track and field to pay damages for saying he tested positive for

"The U.S. judicial authorities have rightly recognised the jurisdictional rights of the IAAF in the world arena," Nebiolo said in a statement issued from Monte Carlo.

"There decision sets an important precedent for the authority of international sports governing bodies with regard. to the involvement of civil courts in "the Olympic movement and in sports-related

"I believe the decision will also have very positive implications on the organisation of the Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Reynolds could not be reached to comment.

Reynolds, a gold and silver medallist: in the 1988 Olympics, was suspended by the IAAF in 1990. The group said he tested positive for steroids after a track meet in Monte Carlo.



Swiss cyclist Tony Rominger practices on a new bicycle 31 October at the cycling stadium in Bordeaux, southwestern France, Rominger

will try for a new world record in a few days, even though he set the current one only about two weeks ago (AFP photo)

Tour of China set for late 1995

BELIING (R) - Organisers of next year's inaugural Tour of China pledged Tuesday that top world cyclists would join the globally televised race, but cautioned that pulling off such an ambitious event would be no joyride.

"It is a huge logistical challenge to stage a cycling event in China, especially as an American company, promoter Michael plant of medalist sports told a news conference in Beijing to announce the October-November 1995 race.

"We will be entertaining literally millions of spectators" in the key cities of Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen as well as Hong Kong, Plant added. Promising a cash purse of

games in Paris and Badalona,

\$250,000, Plant said American former world champion Lance Armstrong would be among top world cyclists pledging to ride in the tour.

Three-times Tour de France champion Greg Lemond, another American who is nearing retirement, will be on hand either as a rider or an adviser, he said.

Medalist has been a lead organiser of the Tour Dupont, the premier cycle race in the United States.

Plant and fellow promoters from Ises Asia of Hong Kong and parallel Media Group of London said they were capable of organising. a seven-stage. 900-kilometre, multi-city Tour of China in concert with Chinese sports authorities.

"We are confident. through our partnership. the great cooperation of Chinese officials and the immense experience gained through the tour dupont that we will be successful in designing a well-structured course and safe environment for cyclists," Plant

He gave no breakdown of race costs or how they would be covered.

Plant said with television rights for worldwide audiences — including 1.2 billion Chinese this was a "very specific marketing opportunity," for foreign and local sponsors. although he declined to give details about TV coverage.

Plant said he was still unable to identify lead sponsors.

NBA breaks for the border

minense and the Brazilian WASHINGTON (AFP) — The National Basketball Association is bent on world domination.

Not content to sell T-shirts, hats and television commercials in the United States, the NBA is branching out, with two new franchises awarded to Canadian cities and a surge of activity around the globe that will include the season's opening game in Japan.

The Los Angeles Clippers and the Portland Trailblazers will launch the 1994-95 season in Yokohama November 4 and will play again the next

By then, the NBA's missionaries will have taken their message to five countries with 11 pre-season games. The Charlotte Hornets'

European swing included the continent? There are 28 million sports fans in Canada. Spain, and nine other NBA teams played pre-season Opportunity." games in Puerro Rico, Mex-

ico and Canada. "This is the most extensive and largest variety of teams and countries in our history," when Canadian fans have their said we can count on even more in the future."

The Canadian clubs, the Vancouver Grizzlies and Toronto Raptors, come on board for the 1995-96 season. NBA Commissioner David Stern made no secret of the fact that the move north is financially motivated.

"Why come to Canada?"

Stern said in announcing

approval of the Toronto

franchise. "Why come to the

largest unserviced market on

and that represents a great market. It's a spectacular in 1990, the NBA sold \$10 million worth of licensed goods in Canada, and that figure will certainly swell

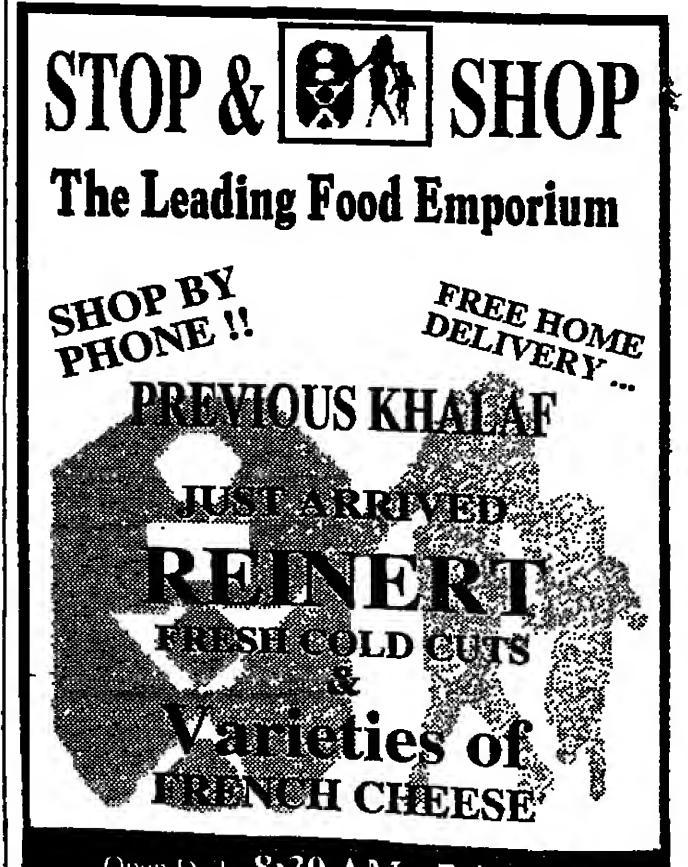
own teams to cheer. The exhibition and regularseason games in far-flung lands, where installing NBA to the NBA by television.

clubs might prove impractical, are a way of boosting a following already turned on The rise of NBA players from overseas, including Nigerian-born most valuable player Hakecm Olajuwon, has also boosted foreign inSome of those players hope to use their success in the star-studded league to help out back home.

Zaire's Dikembe Mutombo joined New York Knicks star Patrick Ewing and Dream Team II's Alonzo Mourning this summer for the second annual NBA tour of South Africa.

The tour included clinics for players and coaches in Johannesburg and Cape

"I'm glad to have another opportunity to see my people and share my experience and. life with them, giving them a big hope," Mutombo said. 'Seeing African guys playing' in the NBA has given them an inspiration."



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Naked Gun 3 The Final h MELBOURNE (AFP) -

Irish-bred galloper Jeune

gave Australian jockey

Wayne Harris his greatest

racing thrill with victory in

the \$1.46 million Mel-

It was an emotional vic-

tory for Harris, whose life

was threatened by brain

tumour surgery several

bourne Cup Tuesday.

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Augustania - Aug

"I can't believe it. It's everyone's dream. He travelled so well, he didn't pull for me and there were openings everywhere during the run," suid Harris. Jeune (16-1) — sired by Ireland's Kalaglow from

years ago.

French mare Youthful kicked away inside the final 400 metres (two furlongs) of the 3,200 metre Flemington racecourse, to beat Paris Lane (8-1) by one and three-quarters of a length.

Imported galloper Jeune

wins Melbourne Cup

Oompala (50-1) came in a half length away in third place. Last year's winner, Ire-

land's Vintage Crop, the 5-1 favourite and in doubt in the lead-up to Australia's greatest horse race after gashing himself at trackwork, was seventh.

The six-year-old Jeune won last year's Hardwicke Stakes over 2,400 metres at Royal Ascot in England before coming to Australia to be prepared by trainer David Hayes earlier this

Adelaide-based Hayes followed in the footsteps of his famous father Colin, who had won the Cup twice, with Beldale Ball in 1980 and At Talaq in 1986.

Paris Lane, the Caulfield Cup winner in record time last month, and Compala battled it out for the minor placings, but made little impression on Jeune in the run to the post.

Bangkok Games threatened as builders sacked

BANGKOK (AFP) — Bangtors were sacked.

The Thai Cabinet revoked building rights for Apipat Nakoru Company after the firm failed to secure for the project, government spokesman Abhisit Vejjajiva said. The state-run Krung Thai

company had not submitted any blueprints. But Thai Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai said: "I want

can be organised in time." Deputy Prime Minister Banyat Banthadtan said: "A few companies are still showing interest." But he added that the Thai government may have to construct the

complex itself through the National Housing Authority. Sports Authority of Thailand chief Therdpong Chaivanand would "try to explore alternatives" and get the project moving "im-

Bangkok has yet to break ground on any facilities for the Games which it was awarded in 1990 in Beijing.

Last March, Olympic Committee of Asia (OCA) President Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah said Bangkok risked losing the Games unless it began construction

There was still a big question mark hanging over Bangkok when the last Games were staged in Hiroshima last month.

million deal with the Olympic Games' marketing agents.

pany which handles market ing for the ... International Olympic Committee, and the Japanese advertising firm Dentsu, which holds a majority stake in ISL, were to make a down payment of five million dollars to the Bang-

They have guaranteed \$15 million in gross revenue and million.

any revenue. Eighty per cent of the remaining profits will go to Bangkok, 10 per cent to national Olympic committees and 10 per cent to the OCA.

possibility of the Games being switched to either Jakarta or Pusan, South Korea, which have bid for the

"This is very close to the

happiest day of my life," said

Williams. "I wasn't sure what

to expect. It was a lot more

fun than I thought it would

14-year-old," said the 26-

year-old Stafford.

with the pros."

"It felt awful to lose to a

"Nobody really knew

much about her, but she did

very well. It was great to see

her so happy. She has a lot of

spirit on the court. It is good

to see she is ready to play

Williams faces the indoor

tournament's top seed Arant-

xa Sanchez Vicario of Spain

American Meilen Tu,

Barcelona meet Manchester United; AC Milan desperate for victory

LONDON (Agencies) -Two weeks after they fought ont a thrilling 2-2 tie a at Old Trafford, soccer giants Barcelona and Manchester United will meet again in the Champions League Wednesday in an atmosphere worthy of the

final itself. With defending titlist AC Milan, shot on confidence as well as points, struggling to gain the quarterfinal, the Barcelona-Manchester Unired battle some 110,000 fans

at Camp Nou is the biggest game of the 16-team tourna-IFK Goteborg looks confident of gaining one of the quarterfinal places from the same group, so it's almost as

months early. "It we lose Wednesday it will be disastrous," said Barcelona team captain Jose Maria Bakero, scorer of his team's second goal at Old Trafford.

if the final has come six-

A loss wouldn't be quite so bad for United, which is a point ahead but plays against without suspended French striker Eric Cantona. He will return for the next game against Goteborg.

While a tie would satisfy United, the Spaniards really need a victory and coach Johann Cruyff hopes his foreign stars, Brazil's Romano, Dutchman Ronald Koeman and Bulgaria's Hristo Stoichkov, can regain the form that seems to have deserted them in domestic action.

Cruvff also hopes the Barcelona fans can lift the team 30,000-capacity Trieste, close to the border with Slovenia. to victory.

"Let's see if we have the same crowd atmosphere in our favour that United had at

Old Trafford," he said. Barcelona is a point behind United and Goteborg in the Group A standings. With the Swedes confident of a victory at winless Turkish club Galatasaray, the Spaniards badly need to beat United to stay in contention.

Milan knows, too, that it is running out of games, after its meeting with AEK Athens

Wednesday, there are only

two left in which if can make

up the two points UEFA

took from the red and blacks

as punishment for a misbe-

havior in the game against

Casino Salzburg a month

The loss of those two

points put Milan down to last

in the Group D standings. It

now is four points behind

group leader Ajax Amster-

dam and one behind AEK

is hampered by having to play

its San Siro Stadium, where it

would regularly attract

60,000 fans. That was

another punishment handed

out by UEFA over the San

Siro incident in which a fan

hurled a bottle, hitting Salz-

burg goalkeeper Otto Kon-

Milan's fans go instead to

The Italian champion also

and Salzburg.

Analysis of key elements of Wednesday's European Champions' League matches:

Group A

Barcelona (Spain) v Manchester United (England)

A 2-2 draw between the sides two weeks ago kept Manchester United at the top of the group and a victory for them at the Nou Camp would

European Champions League

almost certainly see them

United are still without

suspended Frenchman Eric

Cantona, who completes his

four-match ban following this

selection plans have been hit

by an ankle injury to Lee

Sharpe that could keep the

England winger out for up to

Barcelona will be without

suspended defender Miquel

Angel Nadal whose place is

likely to be taken by Abelar-

do Fernandez in a tactical

switch. Barcelona came

through their 1-1 draw away

at Real Sociedad at the

weekend without serious in-

Galatasaray (Turkey) v IFK

Gothenburg (Sweden)

Erlingmnark gave IFK a 1-0

A goal from Magnus

a month.

Coach Alex Ferguson's

through to the last eight.

victory over Galatasaray two weeks ago and IFK go into the match free of the burden of domestic league action following the end of the Swedish

season. Galatasaray's hopes are pinned on midfielder and captain Tugay Kerimoglu, back after a leg injury kept him out of the first match against IFK. Midfielder Suat Kaya scored a hat-trick as Galatasaray beat Denizlispor 4-0 at the weekend.

v Spartak Moscow (Russia)

draw with Spartak in Mos-

cow, will probably have to

face Spartak without French

striker Jean-Pierre Papin

Papin, 30, who has been

injured for most of the sea-

son, suffered another injury

to his right knee after briefly

or suspensions and they ex-

pect to field the same side

that faced Bayern in Moscow

which means Ramis

Mlamedov, sent off against

PSG and suspended against

Bayern, may have to settle

Paris St Germain (France)

PSG, who beat Dynamo

for a place on the bench.

v Dynamo Kiev (Ukraine)

Spartak report no injuries

being declared fit.

Group B

again.

again at the Parc Des Princes. PSG expect to be without three injured first-teamers, striker David Ginola and the Brazilian pair, defender Ricardo Gomes and playmaker Valdo.

2-1 in Kiev, are the only side

in the Champions' League

with a 100 per cent record

and will seal a place in the

quarter-finals if they win

But Brazilian striker Rai has started to play well after a protracted poor spell and scored his fourth goal in as many games in Friday's 3-1

win over Montpellier. Valery Mirsky of Dynamo reported no serious injuries, though forward Sergei Re-Bayern Munich (Germany) brov and midfielder Payel Skopenko missed the latest training session due to slight Bayern, who scored a lastminute goal to force a 1-1

Steama Bucharest (Romania) v Benfica (Portugal)

Steaua, who lost 2-1 to Benefica in Lisbon, will be without as many as five regulars. Forward Marius Lacatus and Defenders Ionel Pirvu, Anton Dobos, sent off against Benfica, and midfielder Damian Militaru are all suspended while striker Adrian Ilie is doubtful because of an infected foot,

Benfica have no serious injuries or suspensions and start as favourites after some superb play in domestic action recently.

kok's ability to stage the 1998 Asian Games, apparently secured by a multi-million dollar marketing deal last month, was threatened Tuesday when the main contrac-

Bank cancelled loans for the Apipat project because the

to assure you that the Games

OAKLAND (R)

Fourteen-year-old Venus

Williams was smashing in her

professional tennis debut in

the first round of the

\$400,000 bank of the west

classic on Monday, beating

58th-ranked fellow American

Williams, a California na-

With Omar Sharif

& TANNAH HIRSCH

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Study the hands in the diagram

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Note that contrary to what many

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could eatily be the case Without

sophisticated methods, it is the only

way to show a hand of 10 points of

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Opening lead. King of

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tive who has not played in a jumped up and down.

GOREN BRIDGE

PLAY OR DEFEND?

Shann Stafford 6-3, 6-4.

mediately," Abhisit said.

immediately.

But the OCA struck a \$50

ISL, a Swiss-based com-

tournament since she was 11

years old, dispelld, any

doubts about her toughness

and talent when at 5-4 in the

second set she served out the

match at love, icing the

match with an unreturnable

serve to Stafford's backhand.

lifted her arms in victory and

minimum with at least three spedes.

South needed no further encourage-

Obviously, the problem is to send

insing two club tricks. The simple

way is to draw trumps and try the

club finerse. Not good enough. Slightly more convoluted is to at-

tempt the diamond book. No better.

king of chamonds, then ruff a dis-

mond and ruff a heart high. Draw

trustps ending in dummy and lead a

club if East plays low, insert the

right. West can win cheaply, but

then must either lead a club into

with sec-queen tenace or else con-

elegant plan by inserting the ten of

clury when the suit is led. West will

be able to win and exit safely with a

The best plan after drawing

trange and channeling diamonds is

to lead the table's last heart. If East

produces the remaining heart (im-

invesible on the auction), you will

have to fall back on the club finesse.

Het when Past shows out, distard a

club from hand and West is under

endplayed. A club is into your ten-

ace and a chamond gives you a ruff-

tuil Making four-odd.

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Unfortinately, East can evin this

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Far superior is to cash the ace and

The 6-foot-1 teenager then

Williams smashing in pro debut

kok organisers.

set a minimum target of \$50 ISL will get 15 per cent of

An OCA delegation is scheduled to visit Bangkok in January to assess progress. And a bad report raises the

event in 2002.

Barrios tries again for marathon prize

NEW YORK (AP) — Just like the New York City Marathon, which is undergoing a transformation following the death of long-time race director Fred Lebow. distanc runner Arturo Barrios is experiencing "a new beginning" in his life.

The 31-year-old Barrios will be competing in Sunday's New York City Marathon for the first time as an American citizen. Barrios, competing for his native Mexico last year, finished third in 2 hours, 12 minutes, 21

seconds. This time, he again is among the favourites, along with Vincent rousseau of Belgium, 1992 New York Marathon champion Willie Mtolo of South Africa and 1991 winner Salvador Garcia of Mexico.,

Wednesday night. Sanchez Barrios became an Amer-Vicario is one of four players ican citizen Sept. 16, and in the 28-player draw to recelebrated the next day by ceive a first-round hye. winning the U.S. 10-Williams received a wildkilometre championship at card entry to this tourna-Kingsport, Tennessee. ment, along with 16-year-old

"This is a new starting test.

point in m career," Barrios said. "I'm Jappy for what I did for Mexico. I set world records for the 10k, 20k and one-hour run on the track and a world best for 10k on the roads. Now, everything is behind me.

"I hope I can do the same for United States that I did for Mexico. I will try to break American records, then world records."

Running for Mexico, Barrios finished fifth at 10,000 metres in the 1988 and 1992 Olympics, and was the Pan-American Games gold medalist at 5,000 metres in 1987 and 1991. His problems with the Mexican Track Federation began when he was not reimbursed, as is common, for his expenses to the Barcelona Games.

Despite being assured that he would be paid, the money never came. Three months ago, at the Mexican championships, the angry Barrios walked off the track during the 5,000-metre race in pro-

Afterward, the Mexican federation removed him from the team for the 1994 World Half-Marathon Championships and the 1995 Pan-Am Games, and left in doubt his status for the 1995 World Championships and 1996 Olympics.

Dismayed by such treatment, Barrios decided to apply for U.S. citizenship.It was not a rash decision.

After all, he had been living in the United States since 1981 and had earned a mechanical engineering degree from Texas A and M University. His wife, Joy, and their 3-year-old twins are American citizens, and for six years, he has sponsored a 10k race at Chula Vista, Calif. where he has donated \$27,500 to a new library, a section of which is being

named in his honour. "I had so many problems in Mexico, I couldn't concentrate on my training," Barriors said. "Now, I amm relaxed. I have peace of mind. I have no problems with the federation.

"I am training like everyone else to go to the Olympics, the World Championships and the Pan-American Games. Before, I was pre-selected for a team. Now, I have to go to the trials. It's a fair system.

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INDIAN CELEBRATION

The Indian Community living in Jordan will celebrate Dipawali, the festival of lights, on Friday, Nov. 4, at the premises of the Embassy of India, First Circle, Jabal Amman. The festivities, organised by the Indian Cultural Association, will include raffles and lucky draws as well as a fancy dress competition for children. A traditional Indian meal will also be served.

Events will begin at 4 p.m. sharp

The British Council

November Programme

November 2, Wednesday 7pm

Wild West (video)

November 9. Wednesday 7pm

Life in the Freezer (video)

November 15, Tuesday 7.30pm

Part 1 Lecture Hamed El-Said The IMF/WB Stabalisation

and Structural adjustment:

November 16. Wednesday 7pm

Life in the Freezer (video) Part 2

The Case of Jordan

November 23, Wednesday 7pm

November 30, Wednesday 7pm

Yes, Prime Minister (video)

The Body in the Library (video)

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Shows: 3:15, 5:15

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Iraq arrests suspects in journalists' hold-up

BAGHDAD (R) — Police have arrested several men believed to have held up and robbed a group of journalists on a government-organised trip to southern Iraq, an official source said on Tuesday. The source did not say how many had been arrested. They were being questioned on the whereabouts of the rest of the gang, he said. A total of 26 items were recovered, including cameras, lenses, batteries, films and cables. Journalists from Reuters, Agence France-Presse and CNN were among 35 Iraqi and foreign reporters travelling on an Information Ministry bus when it was held up by gunmen on the way to Basrah, about 600 kilometres south of Baghdad, on Oct. 10. The bandits beat the journalists, robbed them of money, passports and other possessions, and ordered some to strip.

Arafat announces free trade zone in Gaza

CASABLANCA (AFP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat announced Tuesday the creation of a Palestinian port and free trade zone in the autonomous Gaza Strip. Mr. Arafat made the announcement during the closing ceremony of the Casablanca economic summit here. He said there would be a "port at Gaza, on the Mediterranean Sea, next to which will be created a free trade zone." The zone would be run "in accordance with principles adopted by this economic conference." Mr. Arafat did not say when work would start on the port or how it would be financed. In his speech he also stressed the need to secure "comprehensive and equitable" peace between Israel and the Palestinians, in an area where "the three revealed religions, Islam, Christianity and Judaism, can talk and live side by side."

Nationalist former general arrested in Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — A former general and an outspoken Iranian nationalist was arrested here Monday after having openly criticised the Islamic government, opposition sources told AFP Tuesday. Azizollah Amir Rabimi, 75, wrote an open letter to the authorities in September in which he condemned summary executions ordered by revolutionary courts and called for political reforms. He also urged the formation of a "national salvation government." Mr. Rahimi is known for his criticism of the way the government fought the 1980-1988 war with Iraq. He was also an outspoken opponent of the imperial regime and was jailed several times

Israeli with passion for Mrs. Clinton abandons wife

TEL AVIV (AFP) -- An Israeli shopkeeper decided to divorce his wife because he fell in love with U.S. First Lady Hillary Clinton, the Israeli newspaper Yediot Aharonot reported. The 40-year-old Tel Aviv merchant, a father of four, fell madly in love with Hillary in January 1993, when Bill Clinton took office, his wife told the rabbinical court in Tel Aviv where the divorce suit was filed. The love-struck husband started collecting any publications which mentioned his idol or showed her picture. "In the beginning I treated my husband's strange hobby as a joke, confident that it would pass," the wife explained. "But a month ago things got worse. He asked me to dye my hair blonde, and not just any blonde - it had to be 'Hillary's blonde' and the right style, too." When it was announced that Mr. Clinton would visit Israel "he totally lost control," she said. The shopkeeper followed the presidential couple's every movement in Jerusalem, waiting for hours outside the King David Hotel where they were staying, just to catch a glimpse of his "true love." After the U.S. president and his wife left he told me he was deeply depressed and could no longer live with me," the wife told the court.

Military to interrogate Mahfouz attackers

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian military prosecutors are expected to send 13 suspected Muslim militants to trial in a military court in connection with an attack on Nobel-prize winning author Naguib Mahfouz, security sources said on Tuesday. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak issued a decree authorising the military to interrogate the men, the sources said. adding that the questioning is expected to begin on Saturday. Once they are charged, the men will stand trial and could face a maximum penalty of death. Mr. Mahfouz, whom militants have described as an infidel, was stabbed on Oct. 14, six years after the writer became the first Arab to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Bomb hoax forces plane back to Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — An Austrian Airline passenger plane returned to Cairo shortly after take-off Tuesday when someone called the airline's Vienna office to say there was a bomb on board, airport security officials said. The 25 passengers and seven crew members were evacuated after the craft landed, but a search revealed no bomb, the sources said on condition of anonymity. The plane, an MD82 which can carry 137 passengers, resumed its trip three hours later. Last week, a similar call from an unidentified person forced a plane of the German airline Lufthansa to return to Cairo airport. No bomb was found then either.

S. Arabia releases 19 Filipino prisoners

RIYADH (AP) - King Fahd pardoned 19 Filipino prisoners, including 12 minors, their ambassador here said Tuesday. Ambassador Romulo M. Espaldon said that the group were freed from jail and repatriated Monday. They had been charged with minor crimes, and included some women. The amnesty followed a visit to Saudi Arabia earlier this month by President Fidel Ramos of the Philippines. He reportedly pleaded for clemency for more than 1,500 of his countrymen imprisoned in the kingdom on various charges. There are more than 500,000 Filipinos among Saudi Arabia's one-million-strong expatriate community. Those released included seven mothers and their children. They had been sentenced to four years in prison each for harboring Filipino suspects in the recent murder of two Saudi policemen in the Red Sea porty city of Jeddah.

Libya tightens controls at border with Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — Libya has tightened controls at its borders on the entry of Tunisians and Algerians, travellers said on Tuesday. The Libyan Health Ministry ordered the measures because of reports of cholera cases in Tunisia and Algeria, the official Libyan news agency JANA said on Sunday. "I saw tens of Tunisians and Algerians refused entry in Libya during the weekend. It is almost impossible for Tunisian and Algerian travellers to enter Libya" a Tunisian businessman said. The Tunisian Health Ministry denied there was a cholera epidemic.

Arab population grows faster than Jewish

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Jerusalem's Arab population grew faster than the Jewish population last year, according to figures published Tuesday by the municipality. The study by the city's planning department showed that Jews were 72.1 per cent of the population in 1992, and dropped to 71.7 per cent by the close of 1993. Municipal spokeswoman Aliza Krisst said that non-Jews, a category predominated by the city's Palestinians, were 27.9 per cent of the population in 1992, and up to 28.3 per cent last year. In all, Jerusalem's population in 1993 numbered 567.147. Of these 406.371 were Jews, and 160.776 non-Jews, she said. The Jerusalem Post daily said that Jews were 74.2 per cent of Jerusalem's population in 1967. That year Arabs numbered 25.8 per cent of the population, the newspaper said. The newspaper suggested that one reason for a drop in the Jewish population was increasing migration, noting that more than 6,000 Jews left Jerusalem in 1993 and 5,368 in 1992.

Rabin sets terms for Lebanon pullout

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Tuesday branded non-existent a U.N. resolution which calls for a total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, but he nonetheless outlined conditions for an Israeli pullout.

United Nations Resolution 425 of 1978 urged for an immediate and total withdrawal and respect for Lebanese sovereignty.

"The Lebanese regime is again trying to apply 425," Mr. Rabin told parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee, said a spokesman for the closed door meeting. "For me the resolution does not exist," Mr. Rabin said.

But he outlined three conditions for a withdrawal in the framework of a peace agreement:

- Satisfactory security arrangements;

 An association between Israel's Lebanese militia and the official Lebanese army; - Gradual implementation of the agreement

Mr. Rabin added that he had asked the United States to pressure Beirut into deploying thousands of soldiers in the south to dismantle the Iranian-backed Hizbollah movement, which spearheads anti-Israeli attacks.

"I would then agree to negotiate total normalisation with Lebanon," he said, adding, however, that Beirut could not take a decision without the support of Syria which has 35,000 troops in

The comments came a day after he described as "interesting" Beirut's offer of a six-month ceasefire in return for a timetable for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon.

"It's an interesting proposal as long as the Lebanese do not demand a prior Israeli commitment to withdraw within six months," the prime minister said on Monday.

Lebanese President Elias Hrawi announced Sunday he was ready to accept an Israeli initiative to set up a joint commission to negotiate a timetable for withdrawal from the 850-square kilometre "security zone." "If Israel agrees to withdraw, he's promising us security," Mr. Rabin said Tues-

day. "My aim is a peace

agreement with Lebanon, not just security arrangements." Mr. Rabin went on to say that Hizbollah had carried out 50 per cent more operations so far this year compared with the first 11 months of last year.

Hizbollah guerrillas detonated a roadside bomb explosion in South Lebanon Tuesday, wounding an Israeliaffiliated militiamen amid artillery duels in the volatile

Lebanese security sources said the blast occurred as a militia patrol of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) drove near the village of Shoumariveh on the edge of the central sector of an Israelioccupied border enciave.

Israeli gunners and SLA militiamen retaliated by pounding the outskirts of the villages of Zawtar and Maidal Silm facing Shoumariyeh with howitzer fire, said the

The explosion came a few hours after guerrillas of Hizbollah blasted the Hamra outpost in the Israeli-held enclave with rockets and mortars at 9:15 a.m. (0715 GMT).

The sources said the attackers fired 10 mortar shells and three Katyusha rockets on Hamra, a gateway that links the occupied enclave with the rest of South ebanon.

The crossing on the coastal highway halfway between the southern port city of Tyre and the Lebanese border with Israel is in the western sector of the enclave Israel calls a "security zone."

Israeli troops and SLA fighters responded with mortar barrages on the outskirts of Majdal Zoun, a village facing the Hamra gateway controlled by Nepalese troops serving with the U.N. peacekeeping force in South Lebanon.

A U.N. officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said one mortar round crashed near a Nepalese position, causing no damage or casualties.

Hizbollah claimed responsibility for the attack. It carried escalated violence on the last active Arab-Israeli war front into a seventh straight day since U.S. President Clinton made his first visit to the Middle East last week.

Israel hopes for Oman, Qatar ties

CASABLANCA (AFP) — Israel will soon launch official ties with Oman and Qatar after breaking down barriers at the Casablanca economic summit, according to a member of Israel's delegation.

Israel has also established contacts with Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates during the three-day conference, the official said on condition of anonymity.

"This conference has led to a new improvement in relations between Israel and these two countries (Oman and Qatar) which should lead to the establishment of official ties in the next few weeks." he said.

The news came as the United States said it hoped for a complete end to the Arab boycott on Israel at the next meeting of the Arab League. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said the economic boycott was a "relic of the past" as Israeli and Arab businessmen sat down to talk business together at

the unprecedented conference here. Oman, Oatar, Bahrain and the UAE, as well as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, decided a month ago to lift an indirect boycott on companies trading

with Israel. But the direct boycott, imposed by the Arab League in 1951, remains in place.

Israeli Foreign Minister (Continued on page 7)

Hamas gets weapons through Jordan and Egypt — Rabin

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday that the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas ships arms into the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Egypt and Jordan. "Hamas weapons come

into the territories from Egypt and Jordan," Mr. Rabin told parliament's foreign affairs and defence com-

"The Egyptians do their best to halt the flow but the Jordanians are more effi-

Funds for the fundamentalists also come from Jordan. as well as Europe and the United States, a spokesman quoted Mr. Rabin as saying. A senior military intelli-

gence official, who was not named by the spokesman, told the committee that Hamas had a command centre in Jordan.

"A large part of the orders to attack Israeli targets have been transmitted by Hamas from Jordan, not by telephone or fax but by messengers," he said. The official added that

guerrillas of the Hamas

armed wing Izzedine Al Qas-

sam, hid outside the auton-

omous Palestinian areas of

Gaza and Jericho now to avoid Israeli incursions. Hamas men shot dead two

people in a Jerusalem street on Oct. 9, the same day an Israeli soldier was kidnapped. He died along with three kidnappers and an army captain in an Israeli assault. A Hamas suicide bomber

blew up a Tel Aviv bus on Oct. 19, killing himself and 22 others. Police Minister Moshe

Shahal on Monday did not rule out negotiating with moderates from Hamas. Mr. Shahal said that there

were more moderate streams within the Maslim fundamentalist group that Israel may try to cultivate. "I do not completely rule out the possibility that we will

try, in some way, to create a situation where we would encourage those who support dialogue," the police minister told members of the raling Labour Party.

This is the only way of reaching an agreement," Mr. Shahal said, adding that Israel would continue to "fight aggressively those with whom there is no chance or hope of reaching any understanding."



Palestinians say they raised \$1b capital in Casablanca

CASABLANCA (AFP) — Palestinian businessmen abroad and in the self-rule areas have raised \$1 billion for investment, an official said Tuesday.

"The appeal launched by president Yasser Arafat to businessmen from the diaspora was heard," said Hanna Simora, head of the Palestinian-European Union

Chamber of Commerce. "There will be a billion dollars of private capital invested in the occupied territories." Mr. Siniora was speaking

on the sidelines of the Middle East and North Africa Economic Summit in the Moroccan city of Casablanca. "The capital will be mobil-

ised through several funds, including the Palestinian Investment Company (PADI-CO)," he said. PADICO has a capital of

\$400 million including \$200 million from Palestinians abroad and \$200 million from Palestinians in the territories.

"Together they will set up joint companies," Mr. Siniora added.

"This conference allowed us to mount this financial operation thanks to the participation of 35 businessmen from abroad and 25 from at He said \$12 billion would

be necessary over the next five years to get the Palestinian economy off the ground. "Just less than a third of will come from countries which pledged more than two billion dollars of aid, and the rest from Palestinians and

Mr. Arafat told international businessmen here Monday he would give them "maximum guarantees" if they invested in the Gaza Strip or West Bank.

Arab countries."

His message was mainly addressed to Palestinians at home and in the diaspora, on whom he said he could de-

"Your homeland is in need

of you. Your children need

Palestinians get joint control of bridge crossing from Jordan KING HUSSEIN BRIDGE tine Liberation Organisation of the year as we would like,"

(Agencies) — Israel ceded (PLO) Israel retains final Dr. Erakat told AFP. shared control of the King Hussein Bridge crossing from the West Bank into Jordan to the Palestinians on Tuesday in line with the autonomy agreement.

A day after the Palestinian flag was raised at the Rafah border post between the autonomous Gaza Strip and Egypt, a similar brief ceremony was held at the bridge

over the River Jordan. Israeli General Arych Shiffman shook hands with Palestinian Brigadier General Ziyad Al Atrash at the border terminal on the edge of the self-rule enclave of Jericho.

"I am very pleased this is another step on the road to peace," Gen. Atrash told reporters.

Some 60 Palestinian police and officials in passport, customs and security departments were to begin work at

According to the May 4

between Israel and the Pales-

the terminal on Wednesday, a day after their colleagues at

self-rule. Cairo autonomy agreement

have one channel for Palesti-

The two border posts now

control over the borders.

nian travellers to the autonomous areas of Gaza and Jericho and another for those living in the occupied West Bank, while foreigners will use a third channel operated by Israel. Meanwhile, elections to a Palestinian council to run

autonomy will not be held this year, conceded Saeb Erakat, the Palestine National Authority (PNA) minister organising the vote, who blamed Israel for the delay.

Under the autonomy agreement the elections were to be staged by July 13 following an Israeli army redeployment on the West

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat demanded that the ballot take place in early November, despite the slow pace of negotiations with Israel on the next stages of

"We will not be able to hold the vote before the end

"But don't come alone, we

need your friends and then

we can have not just Palesti-

nian businessmen but joint

ventures," Mr. Arafat said.

the delay by international

donors in unblocking funds.

Bank has released less than

10 per cent of \$720 million of

emergency funding promised

He added all development

projects presented by Israel

at the Casabianca summit

"will remain a dream until

Israel decides to withdraw

from all occupied territories,

including the Golan Heights

powers to the Palestinians on

the West Bank was "three

months late because of Israeli

Israel announced here Sun-

day it was ready to transfer

health, welfare, tourism and

taxation powers to the

The transfer of civilian

and South Lebanon."

intransigence."

Palestinians.

for 1994.

Mr. Siniora also blasted

Palestinians say the World

Negotiations on the format for elections and the powers and size of the council are not due to resume in Cairo until next Sunday.

Israel demands that such detail be finalised before talks start on the redeployment of troops outside builtup Palestinian areas on the West Bank in line with the declaration of principles for autonomy signed in September last year.

"We have asked the Israeli side to hold parallel negotiations not one issue after the other," Dr. Erakat said referring to elections and redeployment.

Under the declaration, Israel is to devolve power over taxation, education, social welfare, health and tourism to the Palestinians on the West Bank before the redeployment.

Only responsibility for education has been handed over so far, with Israel arguing the Palestinians still do not have money to run the other departments.

Blast kills 5 children day after Zeroual announces elections close to the security services ALGIERS (Agencies) — A

bomb attack killed five children and injured 17 other people as they took part in Martyrs' Day commemorations in the west of the Algeria, wracked by a bloody Islamic extremist campaign. It came one day after President Liamine Zeronal announced that a presidential

election will take place by the end of 1995. The broadcast announcement, which would cut Mr. Zeroual's term by at least one year, appeared to be a gesture by the military-backed

government to Muslim fundamentalists robbed of an election victory in January The conflict has left more than 11,000 people dead, in-

cluding 68 foreigners, and cost billions of dollars. The bomb killed five Muspredecessors are buried in Mostaganem, 280 kilometres west of Algiers.

"It went off right in the

middle of the kids." a source

lim scouts in the part of a cemetery where some of their

The bomb attack was the first directly to target children since Muslim fundamentalists began waging a guerrilla campaign against the army-backed regime in January 1992.

Security officials said another bomb exploded, slightly injuring a veteran of the 1954-62 war of liberation in the Karimia cemetery in Chief, 150 kilometres southwest of the capital.

The violence continued as the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) warned that it would increase, despite Monday's bid to ease tension by President Zeroual.

Anwar Haddam, the leader of FIS members who won seats in parliament in the first round of general elections in Decmeber 1991 before the army cancelled the poll, issued the warning in an interview with the Paris-based radio France Info.

"The armed struggle will surely intensify. Algeria is in a state of war." he said.

"There will be no election, that's a promise. There can quite simply be no election in these conditions."

"Unfortunately, we interpret Mr. Zeroual's (broadcast) speech as an admission of failure, in the fact that he ruled out any continuation of negotiations with the FIS," Haddam said.

Mr. Zeroual, who on Tuesday went to the graves of victims of the independence war in the Martyr's Sanctuary at Riadh Al Feth in Algiers. had pledged to hold the election but also to pursue "the eradication of teromism and violence.

Addressing the nation on the 40th anniversary of the beginning of the war of independence, he repeated charges that the leaders of the FIS were playing a dual game in demanding talks but also seeking to "consolidate extremism and encouraging

"He (Zeronal) knows perfectly well that there can be

(Continued on page 7)

Hollywood Madam steals limelight from Simpson

LOS ANGELES (AFP) -

Sex among the stars stole the limelight from the O.J. Simpson trial here Monday as jury selection in the case of Heidi Fleiss, the "Hollywood Madam," began across the hall from the double murder hearings. Ms. Fleiss, 28, faces up to 12 years in prison on charges of pandering - providing prostitutes to clients and selling or transporting cocaine. The so-called Hollywood Madam allegedly ran a high-prices international prostitution ring, catering to movie stars and wealthy businessmen for up to \$1,500 per encounter. Surprisingly. according to police at least some of the clients paid by check, some of them to the tune of \$10,000 at a time. laying a paper trail which has provided evidence for further charges against Ms. Fleiss of money laundering, which are to be heard later. Proceedings in the California case began Monday with the 65 prospective jurors being asked to fill out a 15-page list of questions. They were told to complete them by the end of the day and lawyers in the case will begin actual jury selection next Monday. Ms. Fleiss said repeatedly after her arrest 14 months ago that the world would be shocked by some of the names on her client list, which she said included not only Hollywood stars but studio executives, policemen and even foreign leaders. But few names have been forthcoming. Actor Michael Douglas has been identified, but only as the owner of a house Ms. Fleiss and her father allegedly bought with the ill-gotten gains of the prostitution racket. In addition to the pandering and drugs charges in California, Ms. Fleiss and her 60-year-old father, a prominent Los Angeles pediatrician, face a separate trial on federal charges of money laundering, bank fraud and con-

Paraglider circles over the Tokyo imperial palace

TOKYO (AFP) — A 51year-old Tokyo man flew 🐂 around the imperial palace here in a paraglider, prompting a police helicopter chase, in what he called a publicity stunt for a book, police officials said. Palace guards spotted the paraglider, a propeller-powered parachute, at around 1:30 p.m., immediately alerting the Metropolitan Police Department. After circling over the palace in central Tokyo, the paraglider flew off for some 10 kilometres to an empty lot in the northeast of the city, trailed by a police helicopter, police officials said. The man, whose name was withheld, was not charged because paragliders are not regulated by the existing civil aeronautics law, the officials said. He allegedly told police that he pulled the stunt to advertise a book he has written and just published at his own expense. Police said his parachute, 11 metres wide, carried the title and publisher of the book. The book was entitled as The 2,000-yearold mystery has been debunked" but its contents

Emile Zola's classic undergoes name change

were not immediately avail-

AUCKLAND (AFP) - A French film of Emile Zola's classic "Germinal" has had its name changed in New Zealand because its distributor here believes it could be associated with Germans and concentration camps, the New Zealand Herald reported Tuesday. Germinal. starring Gerard Depardieu, is instead being called Un d'Entre Nous, or One Among Us. The Herald says the film opens with the title Germinal but all the local advertising uses the New Zealand devised name. Distributors Everard Films spokesman Mark Croft said they wanted to give the film "a different look because the publicity work was so grim. "If we had gone out with the original title, no one would have come. We looked at what we could call it and decided that. to remain faithful to the off; ginal, we would give it a French title."

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